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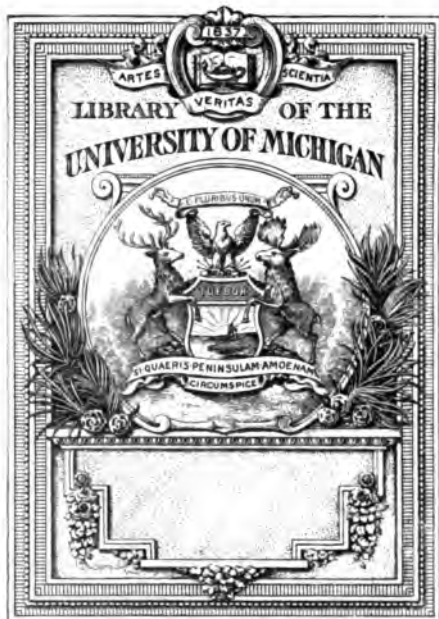
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# The Library World.

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for Librarians.

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# GENERAL INDEX.

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	Page		Page
Aberdeen Public Library. Reduction of expenditure ... ..	119, 212	Barry P. L. Grant by Dr. Carnegie...	13
— — — Report ... ..	307	— Opening ... ..	154, 274
— University. Pamphlet Library	12	Bartlett, Miss L. M. Appd. Librarian,	
Aberystwith Public Library opened...	297	Crosby ... ..	107
Accession methods; by E. W. Neesham	317	Bath. Carnegie grant... ..	46, 236
Accrington Public Library. Ashworth Library acquired ... ..	212	Battersea Public Libraries. Report...	8
— Journal ... ..	10, 166	Bebington. Meyer Trust Lib. Report	129
— Plans ... ..	12, 102	Belfast. Linen Hall Library. Progress	274
Acton Public Library. Report ... ..	307	— Public Libraries. Report ... ..	307
Alloa. Miss A. Peters appd. Librarian	334	— — — Oldpark Branch. J. Nelson appointed Librarian ... ..	161, 217
Anderson, A. Appointed Librarian, Edinburgh University ... ..	50	Benwell Public Library. Plans ... ..	102
Annan. R. Rome appd. Librarian ... ..	189	Berlin University. Handbook to German Lending Library law ... ..	163
Annotation. Descriptive catalogue annotation ... ..	224	Bermondsey Public Libraries. Tooley Street Library opened ... ..	239
Appointments. Outside intervention in library appointments ... ..	270	Beverley Public Library completed ... ..	297
Ashby Public Library opened... ..	297	— Donations ... ..	328
Ashton-in-Makerfield Public Library. S. Lamb appointed Librarian ... ..	125	<i>Bibliographical Register. (Rev.)</i> ... ..	46
— Notes ... ..	274	Bibliographies ... ..	220, 307
Aston Manor Public Libraries Report	7	Bibliography—	
Atherton. Carnegie Library opened	12	How I "went in" for bibliography; by M952.1 ... ..	323
Auxiliary funds for Public Libraries	118	Prideaux, W. Register of national bibliography. (Rev.) ... ..	11
Ayton, J. G. Appointed District Librarian, Glasgow ... ..	188	Biblio-kleptomania, and how to check it; by M. Hyamson ... ..	207
Baker, A. E. Appd. Librarian, Taunton	50	Bideford Public Library opened ... ..	236
Baker, E. A. Appd. Librarian, Woolwich	278	Birkdale Public Library. Librarian's salary increased ... ..	329
— On juvenile libraries ... ..	80	— Notes ... ..	102
Baltimore Pratt Inst. Bulletin 131, 221, 243		— Opened ... ..	184
Bangkok. Expansion of Vajirajan Library ... ..	184	Birkenhead Public Libraries. Death of Branch Librarian ... ..	303
Bangor. University College Welsh Library ... ..	120	— Gift from W. H. Lever ... ..	13
Barbadoes. Bridgtown P. L. opened	274	Birmingham and District Lib. Assoc. Meeting ... ..	139
Barnard Castle Library to be opened for the public ... ..	274	Birmingham Public Libs. Catalogue	212
Barnes, W. E. Appointed Librarian, Greenwich ... ..	50	— Lectures ... ..	154
— Career ... ..	160	— Report ... ..	98
Barnes. Agitation for Public Library	46	— Shakespeare Library additions... ..	297
Barrett, Franklin T.; memoir by J. D. Brown ... ..	113	Bishopsgate Inst., Lond. Antiquities	15
		Black, J. W. Appointed Assistant Greenock Public Library ... ..	279
		Blackburn Public Library Report ... ..	191

	Page		Page
Blackpool Public Library. "Blacking out" rejected ... ..	102	Bulawayo Public Library. Annual meeting ... ..	13
— School Libraries ... ..	13, 46, 236	— E. H. Miller, resigns Librarian-ship ... ..	303
— Vote of thanks to Dr. Carnegie ... ..	329	— D. Niven appointed Librarian ... ..	279
Blackrock. Death of Librarian ... ..	160	Bulletins 10, 101, 131, 166, 193, 221, 243, 309	
Bohemia. Librarianship in ... ..	172	Burnley. Agitation for Public Library ... ..	13
Bolton P. Libraries. A. F. Hatcher appointed Assistant ... ..	303	Burntisland Public Library ... ..	103
— Increased rate levied ... ..	329	Burton, G. H. Appointed Librarian, King's Norton ... ..	160
— R. Sanderson appointed Assistant ... ..	303	Bury Public Libraries. Progress ... ..	154
— R. G. Williams appointed Assist. ... ..	303	— Report ... ..	191
Bonar Bridge Public Library. Report ... ..	275	By-the-way Notes ... ..	222
Boud, H. Appointed Librarian, St. Pancras ... ..	125	Caerphilly. Dr. Carnegie declines to increase grant ... ..	120
— On "Open access." (Corr.) ... ..	227	Camberwell Public Libraries. Boys' room opened ... ..	277
Bo'ness Public Library. Catalogue of Lending Library ... ..	129	— Gift of engravings ... ..	77
Opened ... ..	102	Cambridge University Library. Gift ... ..	329
Book description; by J. D. Brown ... ..	87, 145	Cameron, A. Appointed Librarian. Townhill P.L., Dunfermline ... ..	125
Book Prices Current. (Rev.) ... ..	221	Campbell, F. Brit. Museum. Death ... ..	231
by J. H. Slater. (Corr.) ... ..	259	Cannons, H. G. T. Appointed Librarian, Finsbury ... ..	125, 188
Book Selector ... 18, 51, 108, 132, 167, 194, 244, 280, 335		Cardiff Public Libs. Bibliography of Wales ... ..	101, 193
Bookbinding; by J. W. Singleton ... ..	289	— "Blacking out" rejected ... ..	154
Bookbuyer and Reader. (Rev.) ... ..	328	— Cathays Library. Plan ... ..	47, 213
Book Public Libraries. Journal ... ..	131, 221	— Collection of Welsh books ... ..	47
Programme of Lectures ... ..	166	— Donation for books ... ..	47
Report ... ..	8	— Rare books acquired ... ..	213
Special Book Lists ... ..	10	Carlisle. Lecture on the "Jackson Library" ... ..	237
Borrajó, Mr. and Mrs. Silver Wedding ... ..	107	Carlow. Public Library movement ... ..	184
Bradford Public Libraries. Central Library enlarged ... ..	120	Carlton Public Library opening ... ..	184, 237
East Bowling Branch opened ... ..	236	Carnegie, Dr. A. Declines to increase grant to Caerphilly ... ..	120
Suggested Museum ... ..	47	— Grants to:	
Bretford Public Library. Report ... ..	8	Barry ... ..	13
Brierley Hill Public Library. Juvenile Library ... ..	120, 236	Colwyn Bay ... ..	120
Notes ... ..	329	Downpatrick ... ..	237
Brighton. Erection of Art Gallery ... ..	184	Montrose ... ..	158
Brighton Pub. Libs. Class lists ... ..	101, 129	— Grants declined by:	
The Librarian as a 'handy man' ... ..	293	Bath ... ..	236
Record ... ..	243	Cheadle ... ..	13
Report ... ..	307	Coseley ... ..	120
M. D. Roberts apntd. Librarian ... ..	334	Great Harwood ... ..	76
Treasury remit duties on gifts ... ..	75	Carter, B. School libraries ... ..	29
Bristol and District Library Assoc. ... ..	137	Castleford Public Library opened ... ..	185
Bristol Public Libraries. Description of Central Reference Library ... ..	102	Castleton Moor P.L. Design ... ..	103
Sculpture in Central Library ... ..	213	— opened ... ..	155
Westbury-on-Trym Branch opnd. ... ..	275	Catalogues 7, 101, 129, 164, 191, 221, 241, 306	
British Museum. Acceleration of issues ... ..	239	Chadderton Public Library. Miss M. M. Mellor appointed Librarian ... ..	107
Brouley Public Library. Facilities for borrowers ... ..	103, 120	— opened ... ..	120
W. J. Harris appointed Librarian ... ..	279	Chapel-en-le-Frith. Opposition to Carnegie grant ... ..	47
Methods ... ..	75	Cheadle. Carnegie grant rejected ... ..	13
Report ... ..	98	Chelmsford Public Library. "Open access" adopted ... ..	47
Brooklyn Public Libraries. Bulletin, 131, 221, 243, 309		— opened ... ..	237
— Report ... ..	8	Chelsea P.L. Juvenile rooms ... ..	122, 300
Brown, J. D. Book description ... ..	87, 145	Cheltenham Public Library. S. E. Harrison apptd. Chief Assistant ... ..	107
British, Colonial, and American library legislation ... ..	201	— Report withheld ... ..	329
— Franklin T. Barrett: memoir ... ..	113		
— Manual of liby. economy. (Corr.) ... ..	288		
Brynmawr Public Library opened ... ..	120		

	Page		Page
Cheshunt Public Library. Designs...	298	Dublin Pub. Libs. Resolution on Local	
Chicago Public Libraries. Handbook	166	Govt. Board Auditor's Report ...	298
— Monograph ... ..	163	— Lower Kevin St. Library	
— Report ... ..	9	Report ... ..	275
Cirencester. Bingham Lib. and Inst.	117	Dudley Public Library. Notes.	47, 155
— opened ... ..	103	Dundee P.L. Delivery of reports ...	13
Clarke, S., Libn., Blackrock. Death	160	— Arthurstone Branch. Progress...	76
Classification:—		Dunfermline Public Libs. Townhill	
Savage, E. A. Classification guides		Branch. A. Cameron appd. Libn.	125
and indexes ... ..	261	— opened ... ..	275
Subject classification ... ..	223	Dyer, B.L. South African Libraries	
Clay, W. Appd Librarian, Southend	279	( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	315
Clayton, C. E. A. Appd. Librarian,		East Ham Public Libs. Manor Park	
Manchester Medical Society ..	160	Branch opened ... ..	76
Clitheroe Public Library. Opening	103, 120	— Plans... ..	103
Colne. Gift by Earl of Derby ...	13	Eastbourne Public Libraries. Report	10
Colsten, D. S. Open access. ( <i>Corr.</i> )	316	Eccles Public Library opened...	14
Columbia P.L. Books on gardening	101	Editorial. The fiction bogey again ...	229
— Reference list ... ..	243	— The teaching of literature ...	85
— Report ... ..	308	Edinburgh. Faculty of Advocates	
Colwyn Bay. Grant by Dr. Carnegie	120	Library. W. K. Dickson appntd.	
— P.L. handed over to Dist. Council	298	Keeper ... ..	188
— O. J. Roberts appointed Librarian	303	— Donations ... ..	213
Congress Library. Bibliographies	220, 307	— Public Libraries. Morningside	
Cork Public Library. Complaint ...	330	Branch opened ... ..	155
— opened ... ..	103	— Re-election of Chairman...	185
Corns, A. R. Appointed Secretary,		— Signet Library. Death of Libn.	232
Lincoln Municipal Officers' Assoc.	160	— J. Minto appd. Librarian...	279
Correspondence		— Society of Accountants. A. Fair-	
56, 84, 111, 144, 200, 227, 256, 288,	315, 343	hurst appointed Librarian ...	216
Coseley. Carnegie grant declined ...	120	— University. A. Anderson appd.	
Coutts, H. T. Appointed Branch		Librarian ... ..	50
Librarian, Islington ... ..	216	Edmond, J. P. Signet Library Edin-	
Crompton Public Library. Designs	237, 275	burgh. Death ... ..	232
Crook, B. Appointed Assistant, Ley-		Enfield P. L. Local collection ...	47
ton Public Library ... ..	188	Erdington Public Library. Building	155
Crooks, W. J. Appd. Librarian, Larne	240	Erith Public Library opened ...	298
Crosby. Miss L. M. Bartlett appd.		— W. B. Young appd. Librarian ...	189
Librarian ... ..	107	Ewart, S. T. Conversation between	
Croydon Public Libraries. C. J.		Dr. Watson and Herlock Sholmes	267
Purnell appointed Assistant, Ref.		— Impressions of an outsider:	
Department ... ..	217	Library Assistants' Association ...	40
— Readers' Index 10, 131, 166, 221,	309	Exeter Public Library. Donation ...	76
— Report ... ..	9	— Musical collection ... ..	185, 237
— Sunday opening ... ..	13	Fairhurst, A. Appointed Librarian,	
Darwen P.L. Journal ... ..	131, 221, 309	Society of Accountants, Edinburgh	216
— J. Pomfret appointed Librarian	189	Falmouth Public Libraries. Mutilations	76
Deptford Public Library. C. A. Harris		— Subscription Library. Reading	
appointed Sub-Librarian... ..	18	room opened ... ..	155
— Temporary premises opened ...	158	Faraday, J. G. Appointed Librarian,	
Derby, Earl of. Gift to Colne ...	13	Stroud Green Branch, Hornsey...	302
Devonport. Death of Librarian ...	50	Fareham. Libraries Acts rejected ...	76
Dewey, M. Resigns Librarianship of		Fenton Public Library. Building ...	330
State Library, New York... ..	160	— opened ... ..	275
Dewsbury. The Libn. and classification	75	Fiction bogey again: Editorial ...	229
— by W. W. Yates ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	111	Finsbury Public Libs. H. G. T. Cannons	
Dickens, J. D. Appointed Librarian,		appointed Librarian ... ..	125, 188
Manchester Athenæum ... ..	189	— Quarterly Guide... ..	166
Dickson, W. K. Appointed Keeper,		— Radnor St. Branch opened ...	158
Advocates Library, Edinburgh ...	188	Firth. Coats Library opened ...	14
Douglas Public Library. Donation ...	237	Fochabers Public Library opened ...	155
Downey, J. A. L. Appointed Librarian,		<i>Folkbiblioteksbladet.</i> ( <i>Rev.</i> ) ...	45, 219
West Hartlepool ... ..	216	Fortescue, J. Appointed Librarian,	
Downpatrick. Grant by Dr. Carnegie	237	Windsor Castle ... ..	107, 125
Drogheda Public Library opened ...	298	Franks, W. T. Appd. Secretary,	
Dublin. Marsh's Library ... ..	155	Railway Companies' Assoc. ...	80

	Page
Fraserburgh Public Library opened...	155
Friend, S. B. Appointed Librarian, Grahamstown ... ..	334
Fulham Pub. Libs. Death of Libran.	113
— Loan for books ... ..	215
— W. S. C. Rae appntd. Librarian	161
— Report ... ..	130
Gainsborough Public Liby. Catalogue	129
— Correction ... ..	185
— E. W. Neesham appntd. Librarian	17
— Opened ... ..	120
— Plans ... ..	156, 200
Galashiels Public Library. Accommo- dation for games ... ..	155
Galbraith, J. L. Appointed Librarian, Glasgow University ... ..	188
Garnett, Dr. Richard. Death ... ..	295
Gateshead Public Library. Betting news obliterated ... ..	237
— Juvenile catalogue ... ..	306
Genoa University Catalogue ... ..	213
Gentleman's Magazine ... ..	233
Gillam, Mr. Appointed Librarian, Sevenoaks ... ..	216
Glasgow. Baillie's Institute. Report Public Libraries. J. G. Ayton appointed District Librarian ... ..	188
— Bridgton Branch opened ... ..	331
— Dennistoun Branch opened	214
— C. W. Hedden appointed District Librarian ... ..	161
— Lecture by Chief Librarian	275
— Maryhill Branch. Design	103
— Mitchell Library. Design	237
— Springburn Branch opened	299
— Staff gathering ... ..	214
— A. Strain appointed District Librarian ... ..	161
— Sunday opening considered	237
— Woodside Branch. Catal.	164
— Stirlings and Glasgow Public Library. Report ... ..	98
— University. J. L. Galbraith ap- pointed Librarian ... ..	188
Glenalmond Public Library Bldg.,	103, 121
Godalming. Libraries Acts rejected	331
Gomme, L. J. Assistant Librarian, Inst. of Brit. Architects, resigns	216
Gorleston. Gift for site for Library...	275
Gosforth Liby. Movement. No action	155
Grahamstown. S. B. Friend appd. Librarian ... ..	334
— D. W. Herdman resigns Libra- rianship ... ..	303
— Welcome ... ..	76
Grand Rapids P.L. Bulletin ... ..	221
— Report ... ..	308
Grantham. Library of chained books	14
Gravesend Public Library. "Blacking out" rejected ... ..	276
— Catalogue ... ..	238, 241
— Donation ... ..	185
— Opened ... ..	121
— Tablets unveiled ... ..	214
Great Harwood. Carnegie grant re- jected ... ..	76

	Page
Greenock Public Library. J. W. Black appointed Assistant ... ..	279
— Donation ... ..	103
— Re-arrangement ... ..	214
— Supplementary catalogue ... ..	7
Greenwich Public Libraries. W. E. Barnes appointed Librarian ... ..	50
— Central Library opened ... ..	158
— J. D. Young appd. Sub-Librarian	217
Greenwood Library for Librarians ... ..	183
Grimsby P.L. "Blacking out" rejected	276
— Juvenile library ... ..	103
— Mutilations ... ..	121
— Progress ... ..	185
Guildhall Library. Dickens collection	77
Hackney Central Library. Design ... ..	277
Haddington. P. Shaw appd. Libn.	217
Hair, A. Appd. Librarian, Tynemouth	302
Hale, W. G. Resigns Librarianship, Redruth ... ..	189
Halifax Public Libraries. Open ac- cess adopted for Ackroyd Branch	238
Halley, R. Appd. Librarian, Hawick	216
Hammersmith Public Libraries. Cen- tral Library. Catalogue ... ..	242
— Opening ... ..	48, 77
Hampstead Public Libs. Catalogue	321
Handsworth Public Libraries. List of additions... ..	101
Hanley Public Libraries. Northwood Branch opened ... ..	121
— Report ... ..	99
Hanwell Public Library. Donation	156
— Opening .. ..	76, 121
Harris, C. A. Appointed Sub-Libra- rian, Deptford ... ..	18
Harris, W. J. Appd. Libn., Bromley	279
Harrison, S. E. Appointed Chief Assistant, Cheltenham P.L. ... ..	107
Harrogate Public Library opened ... ..	238
Hartlepool Public Library Report	156
Haslingden Public Library opened ... ..	157
Hatcher, A. F. Appointed assistant, Bolton Public Libraries ... ..	303
Haverfordwest. Effort to secure Dr. Owen's library ... ..	104, 185
Hawick. R. Halley appd. Librarian	216
Hedden, C. W. Appointed District Librarian, Glasgow ... ..	161
Herdman, D. W. Resigns Librarianship, Grahamstown ... ..	303
Heywood Public Library opened ... ..	276
Hilson, J. L. Appd. Librarian, Kelso	240
Hobart. Arts and Crafts Library. Donation ... ..	157
— Public Library. Plans ... ..	238
Holmes, Sir R. Resigns Librarian- ship, Windsor Castle ... ..	107
Hope. Public Library established ... ..	157
Hopkins, A. H. The Pittsburgh cata- logue. (Corr.) ... ..	258
Horbury Public Library opened ... ..	238
Hornsey Public Libraries. Lecture...	157
— Stroud Green Branch. J. G. Faraday appointed Librarian ... ..	302
Hounslow P.L. Sunday opening ... ..	47

	Page		Page
Hove Public Library. Designs rejected	185	Lamb, S. Appointed Librarian, Ashton-in-Makerfield ...	125
Huddersfield Public Libraries. Almond-bury Branch ...	47, 276	Lambeth Public Libs. Herne Hill Branch. — Robinson appd. Libn.	303
— Subscription Library expires ...	214	— West Norwood Branch. Sunday opening ...	215
Hull Public Libraries. Betting news deleted ...	77	Larne P.L. W. J. Crooks appd. Libn.	240
— Grant for Patent Liby. increased	331	— Opened ...	299
— Increased issues ...	238	Leeds. Inst. Lib. Alterations in rules	276
Hunt, F. W., Librarian, Devonport. Death ...	50	— — Effort for conversion to a technical school ...	186
Hyamson, M. Biblio-kleptomania, and how to check it ...	207	— — Report ...	99
Hyde Public Library. Report ...	191	— Public Libraries. Juvenile use Legislation. Brown, J. D. British, Colonial, and American Library Legislation ...	201
Ilfracombe. Adoption of Libraries Acts rescinded ...	157	Leicester Public Libs. W. E. Hincks appointed Chairman of Committee	299
Ilkley Public Library. Plans ...	14	— Report ...	130
<i>Industrial Exponent. (Rev.)</i> ...	219	Leigh, C. W. E. Appointed Librarian, Manchester University ...	216
Inventory, Library ...	291	Leigh P.L. Notes on recent additions	166
Inverurie Public Library opened ...	186	— Report ...	165
Ipswich Public Library. Additions	299	Lever, W. H. Gift to Birkenhead Public Libraries ...	13
— Branch Library opened ...	14	Lewisham Public Libraries. Brockley Branch opened ...	122
— Lecture "Concerning libraries"	186	— H. R. W. Peters appointed Librarian, Manor House Library	107
— Notes ...	121	— Sydenham Branch. Plans ...	104
Isle of Wight village libraries ...	14	Leyland. Public Library movement	77
Islington Public Libraries. Central Library designs ...	15	Leyton Public Libraries. Branch Library for Leytonstone ...	121
— H. T. Couatts appd. Branch Libn.	216	— B. Crook appointed Assistant ...	188
— Donation ...	215	— Lea Bridge Branch opened ...	299
— A. Jones appointed Assistant ...	216	Librarian as a "handy-man" ...	293
— Purchase of books ...	77	Libraries:—	
— J. D. Stewart appd. Chief Assist.	217	Libraries in France ...	297
Jast, L. S. Library work with schools in the United States ...	34	Queer uses of Libraries ...	296
Jedburgh P.L. Portrait gallery ...	157	Smith, C. L. H. Public Libraries. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	112
— J. K. Young appointed Librarian	279	Libraries Acts adopted. Llangollen	276
Johnson, C. S. Appointed Librarian, Teddington ...	125	— — (Extension) Bill ...	270
Jones, A. Appointed Assistant, Islington Public Libraries ...	216	— — rejected. Fareham ...	76
<i>Journal des Langues Vivantes. (Rev.)</i>	191	— — Godalming ...	331
Keighley Public Library. Report ...	192	— and Librarians 12, 46, 75, 102, 119, 154, 184, 212, 236, 274, 297, 328	
Kelso Public Library. J. L. Hilson appointed Librarian ...	240	<i>Library. (Rev.)</i> ...	304
— Opened ...	332	<i>Library Assistant. (Rev.)</i> 45, 82, 97, 128, 218, 235, 272, 328	
Kendal Public Library. Attendances	157	Library Assistants:—	
— Guarantee forms abolished ...	47	Sayers, W. C. B. Library assistants. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	343
Kensal Rise Library, <i>see</i> Willesden.		— Library assistants and the study of good literature... ..	72
Kettering Public Library. Donation	15	Library Assistants' Assoc. Ewart, S. T. The impressions of an outsider ...	40
Kilburn Public Library, <i>see</i> Willesden.		— — Meeting ...	197
Kimberley Public Library. Report...	192	— — Programme ...	139
King's Norton Public Libraries. G. H. Burton appointed Librarian...	160	Library Association. Annual mtg. 27, 57	
— W. Skelton appd. Branch Libn.	334	— Examinations ...	24, 248, 311
— F. Thornsby appd. Branch Libn.	303	— —; by T. E. Turnbull ...	152
— J. W. West appd. Assistant	279, 334	— Meetings 197, 224, 282, 310, 339, 340	
— H. Woodbine appd. Branch Libn.	334	— <i>Record. (Rev.)</i> 43, 80, 97, 272, 304	
Kingston Public Library. Report ...	130	— Summer school; by H. D. Roberts. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	260
Kinross Public Library opened ...	209		
— W. Robertson appd. Librarian...	125		
Kirk, H. W., Sub-Librarian, Chetham Library, Manchester. Death ...	334		
Kristiania. Deichmanske Bibliothek. Catalogue ...	191		
— — Holberg bibliography ...	306		
— — Report ...	99		
Kutz, T. The public (s)newsroom ...	95		



	Page		Page
Library Association. Bristol and Western Branch. Meeting ...	137	Maidstone Pub. Lib. Auxiliary fund	105
— N.W. Branch. Meetings	136, 249, 286	— Mutilations ...	239
— formed in Paris ...	333	Malvern Public Library. Design ...	78
Library Associations	24, 55, 82, 136, 197, 224, 248, 282, 310, 339	— Donations ...	48
Library inventory ...	291	— Opening ...	277, 332
<i>Library Journal. (Rev.)</i>	5, 44, 96, 126, 162, 189, 218, 235, 271, 305, 327	Manchester Athenæum. C. W. Star- kie resigns Librarianship... ..	189
Library Legislation; by J. D. Brown	201	— J. D. Dickens appd. Libn.	189
Library Magazines; by W. C. B. Sayers and J. D. Stewart	1, 36, 91, 147, 180, 208	— Chetham Liby. Death of Sub- Librarian ... ..	334
Library oversight ... ..	326	— Medical Society. C. E. A. Clay- ton appointed Librarian ... ..	160
Library Press	5, 43, 80, 96, 126, 161, 189, 217, 234, 271, 304, 327	— Portico Library. Pamphlet ...	158
Library Publications	7, 98, 129, 163, 191, 220, 241, 306	— Public Libraries. Library for the blind enlarged ... ..	122
<i>Library Work. (Rev.)</i> ... ..	304	— Purchase of autograph letters	300
Library work with schools in the United States; by L. S. Jast ...	34	— Quarterly Record ... ..	10, 193
Lincoln Public Liby. Annual lecture	238	— Report ... ..	192
— Report ... ..	130	— University. C. W. E. Leigh appointed Librarian ... ..	216
<i>Literary Collector. (Rev.)</i> 6, 82, 98, 128, 162		Manual of Library economy; by J. D. Brown. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	288
Literature.		Martin, H. Appointed Administrator Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, Paris	278
Editorial. The teaching of literature	85	Maybole Public Library to be erected	48
Sayers, W. C. B. Library assis- tants and the study of literature	72	Melbourne. Victoria Library. Cata- logue of Periodicals ... ..	165
Littlehampton Public Library W. H. Noyle appointed Librarian ...	279	Mellor, Miss M. M., appointed Libra- rian, Chadderton ... ..	107
— Plans ... ..	299	Melrose. Carnegie offer shelved ...	105
Liverpool. Lyceum Library... ..	121	Melton Mowbray P.L. opened ...	158
— Report ... ..	332	Mexborough Public Library opened... ..	332
— Pub. Libraries. Branch opened	15	Middlesbrough Public Library. In- adequate accommodation ... ..	49
— Collection of prints... ..	158	— Notes ... ..	301
— Librarian advocates smok- ing rooms ... ..	77	— Report ... ..	99
— William Brown Public Library. "Blacking out" satisfactory ...	15	Miles, E. E. Appointed Hon. Libra- rian, Royal Albert Inst., Windsor	217
Llanely Public Library. Donation from Sir A. Stepney ... ..	48	Miller, E. H. Resigns Librarianship, Bulawayo ... ..	303
— Time of opening altered ...	186	Millom P.L. Political papers ... ..	277
— Pontyates Library. Donation ...	240	Milnes, Miss A. E. Appointed Libra- rian, Sheffield Subscription Library	125
Llangollen. Libraries Acts adopted... ..	276	Minto, J. Appointed Librarian, Sig- net Library, Edinburgh ... ..	279
— Public Library. Donation ...	121	Montrose Public Library. Donat' ons	277
— Opened ... ..	77	— Grant by Dr. Carnegie ... ..	158
Llanidloes. Offer of a Public Library	104	— Opening ... ..	105, 122
Long Eaton Public Library. Founda- tion stone laid ... ..	16	— Progress ... ..	49
Loughborough Public Library. Appli- cation for grant for Children's Library ... ..	186	Morley Public Liby. Anonymous gift	239
— Notes ... ..	48, 239	Morris, R., Branch Librarian, Birken- head. Death ... ..	303
— Opened ... ..	16	Motherwell P.L. G. S. McNairn appointed Librarian ... ..	216
Loughton. Donation to Lopping Hall Library ... ..	122	— Opened ... ..	301
Lurgan. 'Library Saturday' collection	104	Mukden. Imperial Library seized ...	105
— Public Library opened ... ..	215	Naas Public Library opened ... ..	159
McAdam, J. Appd. Sub-Librarian, Warrington... ..	80	Natal Society Library opened ... ..	16
McNairn, G. S. Appointed Librarian, Motherwell ... ..	216	National Liby. and Museum of Wales	6
— Presentation ... ..	279	Natural History Museum. Collection of books ... ..	77
Maddern, W. Marriage ... ..	80	Neath Public Library opened ... ..	159
Madras. Amalgamation of Libraries	48	Neesham, E. W. Accession methods	317
Magazines, <i>see</i> Bulletins.		— Appd. Librarian, Gainsborough	17
		Nelson, J. Appointed Librarian, Old- park Branch Library, Belfast	161, 217

	Page		Page
Nelson Public Library. Plans ...	78	Patagonia. Chupat P.L. being formed	278
Neston. Public Library movement...	186	Patent Office Liby. List on agricul-	
New York State Library. M. Dewey		ture, etc. ... ..	164
resigns Librarianship ... ..	160	Peel. Offer for Public Library ... ..	186
Newark (U.S.) Public Libs. Report	99	Pemberton. Site offered for Br. Liby.	123
Newbury Public Library opened ...	301	Penarth Public Library opened ... ..	105
Newcastle Public Libraries. Notes	105	Penge Public Liby. Sunday opening	123
— Proposed branch at Walker ...	16	Penzance Public Library. Comments	106
Newcastle-under-Lyme Public Liby.		Periodical Literature. Readers' guide	163
Effect of lectures ... ..	215	Perkins, R., Sub-Librarian, Sion Col-	
Newport P.L. Gift from Ld. Tredegar	78	lege. Death ... ..	18
Newton Abbott P.L. Report ... ..	277	Perth Public Library. County Coun-	
Newtyle Public Library. Jubilee ...	301	cil grant reduced ... ..	123
Niven, D. Appd. Libn., Bulawayo...	279	Perth, West Australia. Victoria Pub-	
Noall, R. J. Appointed Librarian, St.		lic Library. Catalogue, pt. vi. ...	129
Ives Passmore Edwards Institute	51	Peterborough Public Library. Bulletin	221
Nth. Midland Lib Assoc. Meetings	137, 252	— Efforts to sell old library	49, 187
North Walsham. Connection with		— Notes ... ..	106
Lord Nelson ... ..	49	Peterhead Public Library. Progress	187
North-Western Branch Library Associa-		Peters, Miss A. Appd. Libn., Alloa	334
tion. Meetings ... ..	136, 249, 286	Peters, H. R. W. Appd. Librarian-in-	
Northern Counties Library Associa-		charge, Manor Ho. Liby., Lewisham	107
tion. Meetings ... ..	82, 225, 312	Philip, A. J. On open access. ( <i>Corr.</i> )	258
<i>Northern Notes and Queries.</i> ( <i>Rev.</i> )	190, 328	Pittsburgh Public Libs. Bulletin	166, 243
Northumberland and Durham Assoc.		— Catalogues... ..	164, 191
of Library Assistants. Meeting	55	— Report ... ..	165
Northwich. Public Liby. Subsistence	105	— Hopkins, A. H. The Pittsburgh	
— Tech. School Library. Donation	159	Catalogue. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	258
Norwich Public Library. Donation	240	Pomfret, J. Appd. Librarian, Darwen	189
— Industrial List ... ..	159	Pontefract Public Library opened ...	106
Nottingham Public Libraries. Bio-		Pontypool. Grant by Dr. Carnegie...	106
graphical List... ..	129	Poole Public Library. E. J. Wilkins	
— "Blacking out" adopted ... ..	277	appointed Secretary ... ..	17
— Bulletin 10, 131, 166, 193, 221,	243	Poplar Public Libraries. Central	
— Report ... ..	100	Library to be opened ... ..	300
— Supplementary List ... ..	242	— Cubitt Town Library ... ..	122
Noyle, W. H. Appointed Librarian,		Port Elizabeth Public Liby. Report	130
Littlehampton ... ..	279	Portadown P.L. Acquisition of books	187
Obituary:—		— Opened ... ..	78
Barrett, F. T., Fulham ... ..	113	Portsmouth Public Libraries. Report	131
Campbell, F., British Museum ...	231	— Fratton Library. Foundation	
Clarke, S., Blackrock ... ..	160	stone laid ... ..	159
Edmond, J. P., Signet Liby., Edin.	232	Preston P.L. Lecture on books ...	159
Garnett, Dr. R., British Museum ...	295	Prideaux, W. Register of national	
Hunt, F. W., Devonport ... ..	50	bibliography. ( <i>Rev.</i> ) ... ..	11
Kirk, H. W., Chetham Library,		Providence. Public Liby. Bulletin	166
Manchester... ..	334	Pseudonyms 83, 142, 198, 253, 283,	284,
Morris, R., Birkenhead ... ..	303	313, 341	
Perkins, R., Sion College ... ..	18.	Public Libraries; by C. L. H. Smith.	
Richardson, W., Bolton ... ..	217	( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	112
Steer, C. G., St. Ives ... ..	50	<i>Public Libraries.</i> ( <i>Rev.</i> ) 5, 45, 128,	161,
Oldham. Public Library Committee.		217, 234, 273, 305	
Re-election of Chairman ... ..	186	Purnell, C. J. Appd. Assist., Croydon	217
Open access. Progress ... ..	177	Radcliffe. New Library ... ..	16
— by H. Bond. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	227	Rae, W. S. C. Appd. Libn., Fulham	161
— by D. S. Colsten. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	316	— Appreciation ... ..	189
— by A. J. Philip. ( <i>Corr.</i> )... ..	258	Ramsgate Public Library. Plans ...	78
— by H. T. Soper. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	56	Ransome, W. H. Appointed Libra-	
Ottawa Public Library opened ...	332	rian, Upper Norwood ... ..	334
Oversight, Library ... ..	326	Rawtenstall P.L. Opening ... 49, 301,	333
Oxford. Public Lib. Juvenile cat.	16	— H. Wilkinson appd. Librarian ...	80
— Somerville College. Donation...	186	Reading Public Library. Privileges	
Paris. Library Association formed...	333	for non-residents ... ..	187
— H. Martin appointed Adminis-		— School Libraries ... ..	78
trator, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal	278	Reference works for Free Libraries;	
— National Library. Law Library	123	by H. Saxe-Wyndham. ( <i>Corr.</i> )	343

	Page		Page
Reports ... ..	7, 95, 129, 165, 191,	Sevenoaks Public Library. — Gillam	
Richardson, W. Assistant, Bolton	307	appointed Librarian ... ..	216
Public Library. Death ... ..	217	— Notes ... ..	106
Richmond Public Library. Facilities		— Opening ... ..	125, 159
for children ... ..	278	Shaw, P. Appd. Libn., Haddington	217
— Map of Surrey in 1086 ... ..	16	Sheffield Public Libraries. Walkley	
— Reference Library opening	240, 333	Branch opened ... ..	187
— Report ... ..	100	Sheffield Subscription Library. Miss	
Ringmer. Offer of Public Library ...	187	A. E. Milnes appointed Librarian	125
Roberts, H. D. Appd. Libn., Brighton	334	Shildon. Carnegie grant declined ...	188
— Library Summer school. ( <i>Corr.</i> )	260	— — Protest ... ..	106
— Testimonial ... ..	241	— Public Library movement ... ..	17
Roberts, O. J. Appointed Librarian,		Shipley P.L. Open access adopted... ..	125
Colwyn Bay ... ..	303	— Opened ... ..	215
Robertson, W. Appd. Libn., Kinross	125	— Progress ... ..	159
Robinson, —. Appointed Librarian,		Singleton, J. W. Bookbinding ... ..	289
Herne Hill Br. Library, Lambeth	303	Sion College. Death of Sub-Librarian	18
Rochdale Public Library. Donation	106	Skelton, W. Appointed Branch Librarian,	
Rochester Public Library. Additions	106	King's Norton ... ..	334
Rogerstone Public Library opened ...	159	Skewen Public Library opened ... ..	17
Rome, R. Appd. Librarian, Annan	189	Slater, J. H. Book prices current.	
Ross. Workhouse Library ... ..	106	( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	259
Rugby Public Library extensions ... ..	49	Smethwick P.L. Facilities for juveniles	333
Rushden Public Library opened ... ..	187	Smith, C. L. H. Public Libraries.	
Rutherglen. Grant by Dr. Carnegie	123	( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	112
St. Anne's Public Library opened ... ..	215	Soper, H. T. On open access. ( <i>Corr.</i> )	56
— T. P. Thompson appd. Librarian	51	South African Libraries; by B. L.	
St. Austell. Union Library ... ..	124	Dyer. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	315
St. Bride Foundation Library Report	309	South Shields Public Library. Cor-	
St. Helens Public Libraries. "Black-		rection; see Grimsby ... ..	216
ing out" satisfactory ... ..	78	Southampton. Trades Unionist protest	106
— Progress ... ..	215	Southend. W. Clay appd. Librarian	279
— Report ... ..	192	Southport Public Library. Donation	301
St. Ives Passmore Edwards Institute.		— Mutilations ... ..	334
Death of C. G. Steer ... ..	50	Southwark. Open access for St.	
— R. J. Noall appointed Librarian	51	George-the-Martyr P.L. ... ..	15
St. Louis Public Libraries. Bulletin		Sowerby Bridge P.L. opened... ..	125
11, 131, 166, 193, 221,	309	Spurgeon Library sold to Jewell Col-	
St. Pancras Public Libraries. H. Bond		lege, U.S. ... ..	161
appointed Librarian ... ..	125	Stamford Public Library. Notes ... ..	107
— Controversy on appointment of		— Opening ... ..	216, 278
Librarian ... ..	122	— H. Walker appointed Librarian	217
— Education Committee on Progress	15	Starkie, C. W. Resigns Librarian-	
— Offer from Duke of Bedford ... ..	48	ship, Manchester Athenæum ... ..	189
Salisbury Public Library. Opening	78, 124	Steer, C. G. Late Librarian, St. Ives	
Sanderson, R. Appointed Assistant,		Passmore Edwards Inst. Death	50
Bolton Public Libraries ... ..	303	Stepney Public Libraries. Mile End	
Sandown Public Library opened ... ..	78	Library. Extensions ... ..	158
Savage, E. A. Appointed Librarian,		— — Reference Library opened	300
Wallasey ... ..	279	— St. George's Library. Catalogue	
— Classification guides and indexes	261	for the blind ... ..	164
Sayers, W. C. B. Library Assistants.		— — Events indicator ... ..	15
( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	343	— — Libraries for the blind ... ..	104
— — Library Assistants and the study		— Whitechapel Library. Collec-	
of literature ... ..	72	tions of foreign literature ... ..	104
— and Stewart, J.D. Library maga-		Stewart, J. D. Appointed Chief As-	
zines ... .. 1, 36, 91, 147, 180,	208	sistant, Islington Public Libraries	217
Scalby Public Library established ... ..	159	— School libraries ... ..	173
School Libraries:—		— Joint author with W.C. B. Sayers	
Carter, B. School libraries ... ..	29	Stirling Public Library. Progress ... ..	240
Jast, L. S. Library work with schools		— Supplementary catalogue ... ..	107
in the United States ... ..	34	— W. G. Waugh appd. Librarian... ..	241
Stewart, J. D. School libraries ... ..	173	Stockholm. Catalogue of travelling	
Scotstoun Public Library opened ... ..	187	libraries ... ..	243
Scott, J. C. Appointed Librarian,		Stockport Public Library. Catalogues	165
Westhoughton ... ..	241	— Report ... ..	192

	Page		Page
Stoke Newington P.L. Bequest ...	239	West Ham. "Blacking out" ...	79
— Reports ... ..	100, 309	West Hartlepool. J. A. L. Downey appointed Librarian ... ..	216
Stourbridge Public Library opened ...	301	Westhoughton P.L. Opening ... ..	278, 302
Strain, A. Appointed District Librarian, Glasgow ... ..	161	— J. C. Scott appointed Librarian ... ..	241
Sunderland P.L. Books for the blind ...	216	Westminster. Church House Library ...	215
— Circular ... ..	11, 131, 193	— Public Libraries. Re-organization ...	300
Surbiton. Council decides against a Public Library ... ..	49	— — Report ... ..	192
Sydney. Provision for Mitchell Liby. 17, 188, 216	17, 188, 216	— — Sunday opening ... ..	122
Tamworth P.L. Dimensions... ..	49, 125	— — St. George P.L. Catalogue ... ..	165
Taunton Public Library. A. E. Baker appointed Librarian ... ..	50	Wigan P.L. Grant by Dr. Carnegie ...	50
— Opened ... ..	107	— List of educational books ... ..	101
Taylor, A. Appd. Librarian, Tipton ...	334	— Reference catalogue ... ..	306
Teddington Public Library. C. S. Johnson appointed Librarian ... ..	125	Wilkins, E. J. Appointed Secretary to Poole Library Committee ... ..	17
— Opened ... ..	302	Wilkinson, H. Appointed Librarian, Rawtenstall... ..	80
Telephone stations in London libraries ...	104	Willesden. Public Library movement ...	107
Thomas, R. On books. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	84, 144	— Kensal Rise Library. Report ... ..	130
Thompson, T. P. Appointed Librarian, St. Anne's-on-Sea ... ..	51	— Kiburn Library. Box for suggestions ... ..	50
Thornsby, F. Appointed Branch Librarian, King's Norton ... ..	303	— — Catalogue ... ..	242
Tinsley Public Library opened ... ..	17	— — Report ... ..	100
Tipton. A. Taylor appd. Librarian ... ..	334	— — Willesden Green Library. Quarterly Record ... ..	131, 309
Tokio Imperial Library. Report ... ..	17	Williams, R. G. Appointed Assistant, Bolton Public Libraries ... ..	303
Tottenham P.L. Cost of catalogue... ..	125	Wimbledon Public Library. Report ... ..	131
Truro Public Library. Progress ... ..	79	Winchester. Article on Librarian ... ..	188
Tunstall. Solution to betting news difficulty ... ..	49	Windsor. Albert Institute. E. E. Miles appointed Librarian ... ..	217
Turnbull, T. E. The L.A. Examinations: a causerie ... ..	152	Windsor Castle. Sir Richard Holmes resigns Librarianship ... ..	107
Tynemouth Public Library. A. Hair appointed Librarian ... ..	302	— Mr. John Fortescue appd. Libn. ... ..	107, 125
— Report ... ..	100	Winnipeg Public Library opened ... ..	160
Upper Norwood. W. H. Ransome appointed Librarian ... ..	334	Wirksworth. Carnegie grant declined ...	334
Vancouver Public Library. Notes ... ..	240	Wisconsin Library Bulletin. <i>Rev.</i> 6, 46, 163, 190, 273	240
Venice. Removal of the Marciana Library ... ..	17	Wolverhampton. Revival of old liby. ...	240
Victoria Public Library. Report ... ..	131	— Public Library. Donation ... ..	188
Wales. National Liby. and Museum ...	6	Wombwell Public Library. Foundation- stone laid ... ..	50
Walker, H. Appd Libn., Stamford ... ..	217	Woodbine, H. Appointed Branch Librarian, King's Norton ... ..	334
Wallasey. E. A. Savage appd. Libn. ... ..	279	Woolwich Arsenal. Reference Liby. opened ... ..	79
Walthamstow P.L. Progress ... ..	240, 278	— Public Libraries. E. A. Baker appointed Librarian ... ..	278
Wandsworth Public Libs. Journal ... ..	221, 243	— — Lecture ... ..	278
— Putney Library. Quarterly List ... ..	239	— — Local collection ... ..	50
Warrington Public Liby. J. McAdam appointed Sub-Librarian... ..	80	Worcester Public Library Report... ..	192
— Tablet unveiled ... ..	216	Workington Public Library. "Black- ing out" adopted ... ..	302
Washington. Congress Library. Bibliographies ... ..	220, 307	Worksop P.L. Novel by Hardy burnt ...	302
Waterford P.L. Museum acquired ... ..	79	Worthing. Designs for Public Library ...	17
— Proposal for Branch Libraries ... ..	159	Wrexham Public Library. Plans ... ..	79
Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Liby. Classified list ... ..	221	Wyndham, H. Saxe-. Reference works for Free Libraries. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ...	343
— Report ... ..	100	Yates, W. W. On classification at Dewsbury. ( <i>Corr.</i> ) ... ..	111
Waugh, W. G. Appd. Libn., Stirling ... ..	241	York Public Library. Congestion ... ..	79
Wem Public Library established ... ..	107	Young, J. D. Appointed Sub-Librarian, Greenwich ... ..	217
West, J. W. Appointed Assistant, King's Norton Public Libs. ... ..	279, 334	Young, J. K. Appd. Libn., Jedburgh ...	279
West Bridgford. Carnegie grant declined ... ..	125	Young, W. B. Appd. Libn., Erith ... ..	189



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By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

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(Continued from page 330, vol. 7.)

V.

### THE AFTER-TITLE.

*Editor ; Translator ; etc.*

61. Names of Editors and Translators are to be given after the title, thus :  
**Lavisse, Ernest.** General View of the Political History of Europe. Tr. Charles Gross.
62. State when there is an introduction, memoir, commentary, glossary, bibliography, etc., and when there are notes, if given on the title-page. Use abbreviations, as intro., mem., gloss., bibliog. Thus,  
**Burns.** Poetical Works. With gloss., notes, and mem.
63. If there is an editor or translator use this form :  
**Steele and Addison.** The Tatler: Selected Essays. Ed. A. C. Ewald ; with intro. and notes.
64. Specially contributed introductions, prefaces, chapters, appendices, should be noted from the title-page. Use c. for chapter. As :  
**Bent, J. T.** Sacred City of the Ethiopians: Travels and Research in Abyssinia in 1893. With a c. on the inscriptions from Yeha and Aksum ; by Prof. H. D. Mueller ; and an appendix on the morphological character of Abyssinians ; by J. G. Garson.

Volume VIII. No. 85. July, 1905.

65. If there is an editor and translator as well, give in this order: Translator, Editor, Other special contributions. Each item corresponding to a full stop in the description; as:

**Plotinus.** Select Works of P. Tr. Thomas Taylor; with intro., containing the substance of Porphyry's Life of P. With pref. and bibliog.; by G. R. S. Mead.

If not on title-page, they will come in the note, not in the description.

*Analyticals.*

66. Use this form of analytical reference.

**Browne, Sir Thomas.** Pseudodoxia Epidemica. *In his Works*, v. 1-2.

**Eassie, W.** House Drainage. *In Murphy, S. F., (Ed.)*. Our Homes and How to Make Them Healthy.

67. When parts of a work are split up in classification, each part will be treated under its own class-heading as an independent work, as:

**Kelvin, William Thomson, Lord.** Popular Lectures and Addresses. V. 3. Navigational Affairs.

*IMPRINT.*

68. Imprint order:

Volumes; *or*

Pages if less than 100.

Illustrations.

Portraits.

Diagrams.

Facsimiles.

Tables.

Maps.

Plans.

Date.

Series.

*Volumes.*

69. When two volumes are bound together indicate the fact thus, "2 v. in 1."

*Illustrations, Maps.*

70. State the number of illustrations when fewer than six; when more, give the number only when stated on the title-page, as: "Tuscan Artists. 31 *il.*"
71. Distinguish coloured illustrations thus, *Col. il.* When only some are coloured, state, *Il. Col. il.* Number according to rule 70, as 9 *il.* 3 *col. il.* Count plain and coloured illustrations separately; thus in the previous example there would be 9 plain and 3 coloured, a total of 12. Monochromes, or maps with coloured boundary lines are not to be regarded as coloured.

72. Notice portraits in the text if really important ; maps included in the letterpress may be ignored.
73. Note diagrams when there are no other, or very few illustrations, *e.g.*, "**Mitchell, W.** Billiards. 1 *por. Dia.*" An illustrated book including diagrams is marked simply, *Il.*
74. Distinguish between maps and plans, *e.g. Mps. and plans.*
75. Enter tables only when mentioned on the title-page. When not mentioned indicate them in the note.
76. Use footnotes to indicate peculiarities of illustrations and maps:

**Sharpe.** Chapter on Birds. *Il.*<sup>1</sup>

**Moscheles.** Fragments of an Autobiography. 3 *por.*<sup>2</sup>

**Hardy, Thomas.** Macdonell. 1 *por. Mp.*<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Including tinted reproductions of the plants "in their natural habitats, and in some cases under very difficult conditions."

<sup>2</sup> Including Mazzini and Browning from paintings by the author.

<sup>3</sup> Of the Wessex of the novels.

77. Draw attention, in a note, to illustrations in novels only when specially remarkable either because of the artist or from their nature, as:

**Fielding.** History of Tom Jones.

Has *il.*; by Cruikshank.

*Date.*

78. Give date of publication of all works except novels.
79. Give date of original publication of (1) epoch-making works ; (2) of all reprints of works published before 1700, and (3) if at all significant, of many published before 1800, and even the early half of 1800 ; (4) whenever the original date affects the treatment of the subject ; (5) or, of the first work of a famous writer. Examples :
- (1) **Darwin.** Origin of Species. 1885.  
Ed. 1, 1869.
- (2) **Burton.** Anatomy of Melancholy. 1891.  
Ed. 1, 1621.
- (3) **Kant.** On Education. 1899.  
1st. tr. made since publ. in 1803.
- (4) **Romilly.** Public Responsibility and vote by Ballot. 1886.  
Advocates secret voting. Ed. 1, 1865, prior to the Ballot Act 1872.
- (5) **Kipling.** Departmental Ditties, and Other Verses. 1898.  
Ed. 1, 1886. This was K.'s first publ. work.
80. In cases of undated title-pages, supply the date if possible, using [ ]. If from the preface, state the fact in a footnote.
81. Give first and last dates of sets when each volume is differently dated, as, 1891-97.



*Series.*

82. Give the series, in italics, when it indicates a definite subject, or a society or other body, using the word *Series* only when part of the title, as the *Cambridge Historical Series*. Abbreviate within the limits of intelligibility, as, *Cambridge Hist. Ser.*
83. Example of imaginary imprint according to these rules:—  
**Smith, Walter.** *Sidelights on English History.* 2 v. *Il.*  
 6 col. il. *Por.* 2 *facsim. Tab. Mps. and plans.* 1900.  
*Research Ser.*

*INDIVIDUAL BIOGRAPHIC ENTRY.*

84. Print author's name in black-face type; subject name in small caps, to distinguish clearly between the two:—  
 CHATHAM, WILLIAM PITT, *Earl of*, (1708-78). **Macaulay, T. B., Lord.** *Two Essays.*
85. Give birth and death dates between brackets. If the person is still living, leave a space where the death date would come, as IBSEN, HENRIK, (1828- ).
86. If a part only of a life is treated, supply the period in square brackets: THOMAS à BECKETT, *Saint*, (1118-70). **Radford, L. B.** *T. of London Before His Consecration* [1118-62].
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 BRIGHT, *Rt. Hon.* JOHN, (1811-89). **Vince, C. A.**  
 1889. *Victorian Era. Ser.*  
 In other cases omit the name from the title when this does not interfere with the sense, as:  
 DICKENS, CHARLES. **Forster, John.** *Life and Letters.*  
 MILLET, J. F. **Naegeley, Henry,** (*H. Gaelyn*). J.F.M.  
 and *Rustic Art.*
88. State briefly in italics after the heading the title to fame of the person written about or what he was, except when this is clearly indicated in the title. Examples:  
 IBSEN, HENRIK, (1828- ). *Norwegian dramatist & poet.*  
 BORROW, GEORGE, (1803-81). *Traveller. Writer on the Gypsies, etc.*  
 STEPHENSON, ROBERT, (1803-59). *Inventor of the tubular bridge.*
89. When the nationality is foreign (including American and Colonial) this is to be stated, as Ibsen, "Norwegian" dramatist, in the example above. When the information is not succinct enough to be given in such short phrases as are here indicated, it should be reserved for the annotation.

Next month we shall deal with practical annotation.

(*To be continued.*)

## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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**B**OOKS and Libraries for the Blind form the subject of a paper by Dr. Robert C. Moon in the May *Library Journal*. The writer is the son of William Moon, the inventor of the system of embossed writing bearing his name. He describes the systems of writing for the blind in use, and the various agencies for circulating literature. After examining the existing departments for the blind in Public Libraries, he comes to the conclusion that "all the libraries need more books, and if they are to reach and teach the adult blind they must have a fair proportion of them in the Moon type. All Public Libraries should possess a few works printed in the various types, care being taken to have a good supply of those embossed in the special type which is taught in the schools for the blind of the immediate locality, in order that the pupils in vacation time, and the graduates of the schools may be provided with reading matter, but the infirm and aged blind will be found in almost all communities, and for them books printed in the Moon type are indispensable. Alice S. Tyler describes the League of Library Commissions. "The success of the experiment in co-operation which was inaugurated in 1901 by the library commissions of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa, whereby printed matter of common interest and equal necessity and value to these commissions was issued jointly, led to the suggestion that a national organization might more economically carry forward these and other lines of co-operative work, leaving to the overcrowded state commission workers more time and money for the peculiar problems of each state." This suggestion was brought up at the St. Louis conference, and resulted in an organization being formed under the title of the League of Library Commissions, consisting of one representative from each of the commissions included. The particular directions in which the League will promote co-operative work are: carefully prepared lists of books for first purchase for small libraries; lists of new books which, upon examination, had been found desirable; handbook of suggestions and direction as to the organization and management of small libraries; printed statement regarding the aims and methods of state library commissions, with comparison of their laws; definite help and suggestions on the subject of library buildings, especially floor-plans arranged for economic administration, growing out of the experience of the library commissions in connection with the erection of Carnegie and other library buildings within the last few years; united effort to bring to the attention of book publishers the urgent need of good, durable binding, adequate indexing, &c.

Mr. E. A. Birge concludes his paper on "Library Extension" in the June *Public Libraries*, with a section on the real aim and purpose of the library. He says: "We cannot remind ourselves too frequently that the fundamental purpose of good books, and so of the library which possesses them, is to give pleasure, and that the library ought to

be more closely and peculiarly associated with pleasure than any other institution supported by the public. We Americans may not take our pleasures sadly, but I think we are somewhat too apt to justify them in terms of political economy . . . We are apt to dwell on the educational features of library work and to push those into the foreground, emphasizing the technical and practical advantages which flow from them. This is wholly right, but . . . there still remains the final word that the first and highest business of the Public Library is to cultivate a love for literature and to circulate literature among its patrons, and that the first and most distinctive quality is that it gives pleasure." Mary B. Lindsay outlines Some General Principles of Book Selection, but has nothing particularly new to say on the matter. Caroline McIlvaine contributes a paper on Special Collections in Small Libraries, dealing with local collections and photographic surveys, and inspired by a recent number of the "Library Association Record." C. J. Barr writes on the Relations of the Greater Libraries to the Lesser, and deals with the distribution of printed catalogue cards and publications, loans of books, and reference work by correspondence. A long report of the annual meeting of the Illinois Library Association is contained in this number.

Miss Cornelia Marvin writes on "The Care of Books" in the May *Wisconsin Library Bulletin*. She deals with the subject from the point of view of the children's librarian, and describes how children can be made to take care of the books. Various notes on library progress in Wisconsin, and practical notes for librarians make up the number.

The *Literary Collector* for March opens with an article on Caxton in His Prologues and Colophons, illustrated with a facsimile. A. E. Gallatin attempts a critical estimate of the colour etchings of Bernard Boutet de Monvel, which at present number but little above a score, and supplies a very fine example of the one entitled "Le vieux curé." There is also a bibliography of the writings of John Howard Payne by Mr. Oscar Wegelin.

The April number principally consists of a long article on the New Jersey signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Wegelin contributes an appreciative obituary note on Samuel Miller Hageman, the American Poet. A facsimile of a letter of Aubrey Beardsley's forms the frontispiece.



## THE NATIONAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF WALES.

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THE Committee appointed by the Privy Council in February to consider the question of the establishment of a National Library and Museum for Wales, with a view to Treasury grants, have concluded their deliberations, and, on June 8th, presented their report to the Council. They recommend that the National Library shall be

located at Aberystwith, and the National Museum at Cardiff. As was to be expected this decision does not please all parties, but the general trend of the Press comments is in its favour, more than one paper declaring it to be the best arrangement possible. The reasons assigned by the Committee are certainly such as commend themselves to an impartial observer, viz., that, whereas it was decidedly expedient that the Museum should be in the largest centre of population, there was not the like expediency that the library should be similarly placed, if there were other good reasons for locating it elsewhere. The two institutions differ considerably in their *raison d'être*, and while the Museum should be where it will attract the greatest number of visitors, students of literature for whose benefit the Library will chiefly exist, will probably prefer the atmosphere of a quiet University town which will be more congruous for a library of this character than a large commercial centre. Cardiff has, moreover, already a very excellent municipal library, which largely compensates for the lack of the National one, and doubtless this fact had some weight with the Committee in guiding their decision. The matter, however, is not yet finally settled and doubtless there will be much controversy before it is.



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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### CATALOGUE.

**Greenock Public Library.** Supplementary Catalogue of Books (author list) added to the Lending and Juveniles' Libraries, 1903-1905. 15 pp. 4to. 1905. Price 1d.

A brief-title list in double columns. Contents are set out in some cases. Although more attention has been paid to informative detail than in many catalogues, a number of entries require elucidation. Thus "Short History of ancient Egypt" would have been better with the period added, and it should have been stated whether Paul and Victor Margueritte's "Commune" was fiction or history. Such particulars as these are not troublesome to supply, and do not occupy much space, and they add infinitely to the value of the catalogue. In one or two cases short notes have been added, as in "Brierley (J.) Problems of Living. (Religious Studies)."

### REPORTS.

**Aston Manor** (one branch), twenty-seventh report, 1904-05. Stock 22,606 volumes; borrowers 4,100; volumes issued 138,878; expenditure £1,099. The year has been one of steady progress. The early closing of the library on one day in the week has been done away with. The courses of free lectures have been continued, and judging from the statistics, have proved eminently successful.

**Battersea** (two branches), eighteenth report, 1904-05. Stock 53,813 volumes; borrowers 15,682; volumes issued 401,382 (lending 344,104, reference 57,218), last year 409,647. The method of providing for lectures is interesting: "As stated in the last Report, no provision was made in the Estimates for 1904-05 for the expenses of carrying on the University Extension Lectures, and this work has been undertaken by a Committee of Students and others who had attended previous courses of these lectures, an application to the London County Council for a grant in aid of the movement having proved unsuccessful. The Borough Council kindly granted the use of the Lower Town Hall for a course of ten lectures in the Lent Term of 1905, free of charge, and in order to meet the other expenses a fee of 2s. 6d. is charged for the course, or 6d. for admission to a single lecture. It is hoped that the cost of the course will thus be covered, and even that a small balance may be left in hand, which will be presented to the Council for the purchase of books for the Central Library." Possession of the site for the proposed new building in Winstanley Ward—estimated to cost £11,135—has been obtained, and plans have been approved. Betting news has been blacked out, and "since this has been done, it has become possible for readers to see the ordinary news of the day without inconvenience or annoyance."

**Bootle** (one branch), eighteenth report, 1904-05. Stock 26,902 volumes; borrowers 5,381; volumes issued 135,840 (lending 116,797, reference 19,043), daily average 443; expenditure £2,230. A start has been made in lending sets of books to local societies. The following conditions are laid down: (1) Not more than twenty books shall be lent out at a time; (2) In the case of duplicate books being lent, they may be kept for a period not exceeding one month; in the case of other books for a period not exceeding the stated time allowed for reading such books; (3) A guarantee to be given on behalf of the Society sufficient to cover the cost of the books which may be lent. Thirty-six lectures have been delivered during the year, and have been attended by 18,971 persons.

**Brentford**, fifteenth and sixteenth reports, 1903-5. Stock 7,863 volumes; borrowers 2,603; volumes issued (two years) 34,784; expenditure (two years) £1,309. A full account of the proceedings at the opening of the new building by Mr. Carnegie is given. The stock of books has been classified and re-catalogued. Nineteen lectures have been delivered during the two years.

**Brooklyn** (twenty-two branches, delivery station, and travelling libraries), seventh report, 1904. Stock 423,993 volumes; borrowers 161,955; volumes issued 2,095,114; expenditure \$268,518. This report is, as usual, an exceedingly interesting one, and the description of library progress it contains should arouse no small feeling of envy in less fortunate British and American libraries. In seven years the library has grown from one with 5,280 volumes and an appropriation of \$5,000 to its present mammoth size. In view of Mr. Savage's paper before the Library Association on the 19th June, the following remark is worth

quoting as an American opinion: "Of the importance of the work of a Reference Department there can be but one opinion. It is this department that should, first, know books: second, know the resources of the library; third, know human nature . . . It is a most necessary department in a library with all its work done in one building. It is particularly important in a system like the Brooklyn Public Library, with its twenty-three libraries, more or less widely separated, any one of which must use the resources of all, to answer difficult questions. It is the Reference Department that hopes to make this work increasingly more efficient." Two branches have been opened during the year, and four new Carnegie branches are in progress. A library for the blind is also being formed. Closer relations have been entered into with the schools of the city. "The library placed in each of its branches a set of books to be known as the 'Teachers' Reference Collection.' The list was compiled from the recommendations of Brooklyn school teachers, with careful reference to the Course of Study. Books from which information can be obtained quickly and in concise form were chosen, rather than those containing exhaustive treatises. The collection is intended for use at the library buildings, not for circulation, in order that the books may always be found on the shelves when needed. Circulating copies of all these books have been added to the collection, and suggestions from teachers will be gladly received at any time." There is a lot of interesting information on various other departments, which we are unable to note in the space at our disposal.

**Chicago: John Crerar Library**, tenth report, 1904. Stock 131,000 volumes; volumes issued 220,000; expenditure \$138,453. The most serious problem of the year has been want of space, but arrangements have now been made to get over this to some extent. The distribution of the printed catalogue cards has been continued, and from the Library of Congress have been received 42,355 cards in exchange. A library of 18,300 volumes on the Social Sciences, formed by C. V. Gerritsen, of Amsterdam, has been purchased.

**Croydon** (two branches), sixteenth report, 1904-05. Stock 53,521 volumes; borrowers 15,750; volumes issued 450,521 (lending 400,284, reference 50,237), last year 448,975; expenditure £4,213. The most important development of the year has been the establishment of a system of School Libraries. "The books are made up into separate libraries for each school at the Central Library, from which they are forwarded to the respective schools, and to which they will be returned before the summer holidays for examination, replacements, and repairs. This having been done, they will be re-distributed so that each school will have a partially or entirely fresh selection of books to draw from. A special assistant is appointed to attend to this work, paid wholly by the Education Committee during the first year, and afterwards by the Education and Libraries Committees jointly. Standards IV.—VII. only are provided for at present. The sum of £400 was estimated as the cost of initiating the libraries on the basis of 'minimum efficiency,' and it was suggested that an annual sum of £250 would suffice for



# The Library World,

*A Medium of Intercommunication for Librarians.*

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## LIBRARY MAGAZIN. 3: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

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(Continued from page 330, vol. 7.)

V.

### THE AFTER-TITLE.

*Editor ; Translator ; etc.*

61. Names of Editors and Translators are to be given after the title, thus:  
**Lavisse, Ernest.** General View of the Political History of Europe. Tr. Charles Gross.
62. State when there is an introduction, memoir, commentary, glossary, bibliography, etc., and when there are notes, if given on the title-page. Use abbreviations, as intro., mem., gloss., bibliog. Thus,  
**Burns.** Poetical Works. With gloss., notes, and mem.
63. If there is an editor or translator use this form:  
**Steele and Addison.** The Tatler: Selected Essays. Ed. A. C. Ewald; with intro. and notes.
64. Specially contributed introductions, prefaces, chapters, appendices, should be noted from the title-page. Use c. for chapter. As:  
**Bent, J. T.** Sacred City of the Ethiopians: Travels and Research in Abyssinia in 1893. With a c. on the inscriptions from Yeha and Aksum; by Prof. H. D. Mueller; and an appendix on the morphological character of Abyssinians; by J. G. Garson.

Volume VIII. No. 85. July, 1905.



of scattered over hundreds of pages according to the accident of the alphabetical order of names, and one would also look for a classification of such topics into large groups in strictly relative order. Mr. Courtney has, however, lost all the advantage and value of classification by the arrangement he has chosen, and so to the student, as opposed to the mere special subject-seeker, the work loses enormously in interest and utility. Why geographical information, for example, should be scattered in such a book—especially, as already said, it possesses a good index—so that it is impossible to find the bibliographies of England in whole, and in part, together, it is impossible to imagine, because there is no real gain in having London, Manchester, Cornwall, etc., separated from England, as if they possessed nothing in common. In a new edition we should hail with satisfaction the appearance of classification, plus a good alphabetical index, and we can guarantee that a considerable saving of space would be effected. The virtues of Mr. Courtney's book are summed up in the word catholicity. He has included everything he could lay his hands on, and though it would be easy to point out omissions, we prefer to hold by the quantity rather than the quality of the entries. A bare reference to any list of books on any subject is always useful and suggestive, and in this particular book there must be thousands of entries of this character, which should prove valuable to students. The book must have entailed a vast amount of labour, and we congratulate Mr. Courtney upon having produced a perfect storehouse of information for future enquirers.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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*[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]*

**Aberdeen.**—At a meeting of the University Library Committee, held June 16th, it was decided to print a classified subject catalogue of the books, to be placed in the Student's Room at Marischal College.

A large collection of books of a special character has long been at Beaumont Street Congregational Church, and is now offered for deposit at the University Library. The collection is known as "King's Pamphlet Library," and was amassed by the late George King, a bookseller in Aberdeen, who in the course of a long life managed to secure many pamphlets of especial value.

**Accrington.**—Mr. Newton, Borough Surveyor, has received Dr. Carnegie's approval of the designs of the proposed Public Library, towards which he promises £7,000.

**Atherton.**—Lord Lilford recently opened the Public Library which has been built by the aid of Dr. Carnegie's gift of £4,000. Some 6,000 books have been obtained by means of an appeal to the public, and about 4,000 have been handed over by the Unitarian Chapel trustees. Dr. Carnegie's donation is recorded on a bronze tablet.

**Barry.**—Dr. Carnegie has informed the Public Library Committee that he will provide £800, being the cost of the arbitration proceedings in connection with the trouble at the Central Library at Barry Dock.

**Batley.**—The *Deusbury News* recently offered small prizes for the best suggestions for the ceremony to be observed at the corner-stone laying of the Public Library and opening to the new Town Hall.

Several letters were published, but we do not find any particularly novel suggestions among them.

**Birkenhead.**—The difficulty which has so long troubled the Libraries Committee is likely to be solved, as Mr. W. H. Lever has offered to present a site for the Central Library, and so enable the committee to secure Dr. Carnegie's gift of £15,000. The value of the site is between £5,000 and £6,000.

**Blackpool.**—This town claims to be the first to adopt the system of Municipal Libraries for school children. We are not sure that this claim can be upheld, but evidently the scheme is being energetically and satisfactorily worked.

**Bulawayo.**—Mr. E. H. Miller, the Librarian, announced at the annual meeting of the Public Library, that the books presented during the past year were both numerous and valuable; the donations of Colonel Rhodes, Mr. Lazano, the Cape Government, and the British South Africa Company, being particularly worthy of mention. An effort is being made to raise funds to obtain a special collection of books, &c., relating to Rhodesia, and to the late Cecil Rhodes.

**Burnley.**—The *Burnley Gazette* of June 10th, contained a communication pressing the authorities of Burnley to emulate the little sister town of Nelson, by instituting a Public Library, justly saying that it would strike a stranger as remarkable to find a go-ahead town like Burnley without a library of its own.

**Cheadle.**—A poll has been taken on the question of adopting the Library Acts in connection with Dr. Carnegie's offer of £1,500. The result was:—For the adoption 96, against, 424.

**Colne, Lancashire.**—The condition upon which Dr. Carnegie promises aid in the erection of a Public Library for the Borough is likely to be complied with, as a site has been secured from the Earl of Derby.

**Croydon.**—*The Croydon Citizen* is rather indignant that the Public Libraries should not be open at least for some portion of the day on Sundays. A correspondent of that paper regrets that "our able and energetic, and not unprogressive Chief Librarian, Mr. Jast," has not taken up the idea.

**Dundee.**—The members of the Library Committee have been put into some trepidation by the receipt of an official intimation from the Post Office, to the effect that, by having had the Annual Reports delivered by hand, instead of sending them through the post, the members were jointly and severally liable to a heavy fine. We do not suppose

the matter will, in this case, go further, but the more widely the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General is known, the less likely that other committees will commit a similar "crime."

**Eccles.**—On Wednesday night, May 10th, the opening ceremony took place of the first Public Reading Room and Lending Library for the Borough of Eccles. As is well known, Dr. Carnegie has promised £7,500 for the building of a large library on a central site in Eccles, but, in the meantime, the Town Council have arranged to rent the Vestry Hall at Patricroft, which will be considered as a branch library. Mr. Chas. J. Mellor, formerly Librarian of Kendal, is the Chief Librarian

**Firth, N.B.**—The Coats' Library was opened on Saturday evening, June 10th, when thanks were enthusiastically awarded to Mr. Coats for this fresh example of his interest in village life.

**Grantham.**—The library of chained books in the parish church is the subject of an illustration which appeared in the *Morning Leader*, May 26th. Turning to Mr. J. Willis Clark's *Care of Books* (1901) p. 257, we find that the library is in a room above the south porch, approached by a newel stair from the south aisle. It was founded in 1598 by the Rev. Francis Trigg, rector of Wellbourn, and seems to have been intended for the benefit of the vicar for the time being. Mr. Clark gives a plan showing the room to be sixteen by fourteen feet.

**Ilkley.**—The *Building News* of June 2nd contained a reproduction of the drawings by Mr. William Bakewell, architect, of Leeds, who obtained the first premium in the recent competition for a design for the Public Library and other buildings.

**Ipswich.**—The district, known in colloquial parlance as California, has now its library, a branch of the Ipswich Public Library. The opening ceremony, on May 25th, was well attended and due thanks were accorded to Mr. W. F. Paul, Mr. F. Cobbold, and other friends, who had generously afforded the assistance which enabled the inhabitants to build without appealing to Dr. Carnegie. We notice that Mr. Frank Brown, who designed the building, gave his services gratuitously.

**Isle of Wight.**—"Owing to the interest of Sir Charles Seely, of Brook House, Isle of Wight, and Sherwood Lodge, Nottingham, a Public Library has been established in each of thirty villages in the Isle of Wight, in connection with the large Central Library, founded by Sir Charles at Newport some three years ago. In most cases the library has been installed in the village school, with the headmaster as librarian, and the excellent assortment of books, with an encyclopædia for each village, is kept in large and convenient oak book cases, ingeniously designed and presented by Sir Charles Seely. The upper portion of each case is portable, so that it may be used for the conveyance of the books from and to the Central Library. In addition to founding and furnishing the Central and village libraries, Sir Charles Seely is now duplicating some of the books and presenting others, his additional gift representing about a thousand volumes."—*The Times*.

**Kettering.**—On Thursday, May 25th, the Free Church Council of Kettering and neighbourhood presented to the Public Library a bust of William Knibb, missionary and emancipator, a native of Kettering. The bust is of bronze, mounted on an oak pedestal, and is the work of Mr. H. H. Newman, a local amateur sculptor. It was unveiled by Mr. D. B. Chamberlain, President of the Free Church Council, before a large audience.

**Liverpool.**—The blacking-out of sporting news is reported to work satisfactorily in the William Brown Public Library, by keeping away a large number of individuals whose presence had long been a hindrance to the proper use of the institution.

**Liverpool: Kirkdale.**—The new branch Public Library was opened with enthusiasm on the evening of June 21st. The Lord Mayor presided over the proceedings and was strongly supported. Mr. Peter Cowell, Chief Librarian, was congratulated on the addition of this new branch. The building, designed by Mr. T. Shelmerdine of Liverpool, seems to be of good proportions, and presents a very attractive exterior.

**London: Bishopsgate.**—*Apropos* the suggested museum of London antiquities, prints, &c., Mr. C. W. F. Goss writes to *The Times* on the great space such collections require, incidentally mentioning that in Bishopsgate Institute some 350 views are exhibited in the large hall and along the main corridor, as well as about 2,000 prints in portfolios, arranged under the the names of the City wards, and 700 volumes dealing with London's history and topography.

**London: Islington.**—The select competition for the central library has been decided in favour of Mr. Henry T. Hare, F.R.I.B.A., who was successful in securing first place among the eight designs lodged. Mr. A. W. S. Cross was placed second, and Professor Beresford Pite, third, by Mr. John Belcher, A.R.A., who acted as assessor. He expressed himself in terms of praise regarding the high merit of all the designs, and the Public Libraries Committee and Borough Council were unanimous in accepting the award. The plans were on exhibition at the Islington Town Hall on June 26th and 27th.

**London: St. Pancras.**—The Education Committee reported to the Borough Council on June 21st, that they had been unable to induce owners to give sites for the proposed libraries, or monetary donations towards the purchase.

As only a small part of Dr. Carnegie's contribution of £40,000 can be spent on the purchase of sites, matters remain at a standstill for the moment.

**London: Southwark.**—We learn that the St. George-the-Martyr Library of this important borough is being re-organized on the open-access system, under the supervision of Mr. Thos. Aldred.

**London: Stepney.**—An "Events Indicator" has been introduced by Mr. Roebuck at the St. George's Library. A large map of the world has been framed, and upon a mechanical slide placed at the top of the framing run twelve moveable struts which can be placed over any

particular longitude. From the struts, steel pointers are lowered and so manipulated as to indicate any position on the map exactly. Each pointer bears a number which corresponds with the number of a compartment in the slot explanation frame alongside. The location of events of sufficient importance is carried out each morning, and notes of explanation are inserted in the frame calling attention to books in the library bearing upon the subject. Standing as it does at the entrance to the newsroom great interest is shewn in the Events Indicator, and arrangements are in progress for scholars at local schools to inspect the device daily.

**Long Eaton.**—Sir Walter Foster, M.P., laid the foundation-stone of the new Public Library on Saturday, June 3rd. Dr. Carnegie gave £3,000 towards the building, which is designed by Messrs. Gorman & Rose.

**Loughborough.**—On June 21st, the new Public Library was opened; £3,000 placed at the disposal of the town by Dr. Carnegie, and a site given by Mr. F. R. Griggs, having enabled the Town Council to proceed with the building.

The erection is of somewhat striking character, and is much to the credit of Messrs. Barrowcliff & Alcock, the architects, as we stated in our issue of March.

The reading room is a special feature of the building; it is rectangular up to a height of thirteen feet, covered with octagonal dome twenty-seven feet above the floor level.

**Natal.**—Commodious premises have been secured by the Natal Society for its valuable library. A new building was opened by Sir Henry McCullum, the Governor of Natal, in the presence of a representative gathering; among others present being the Very Revd. Dean Green, one of the original founders of the Natal Society some fifty-three years ago.

**Newcastle-on-Tyne.**—Walker, now become part of Newcastle, desires a branch library, and it seems likely the Mechanics' Institute will become its home.

**Oxford.**—Mr. J. L. Dougan, the Chief Librarian, has compiled a catalogue which will be welcomed by those who watch over the young. It is a complete list of books, in the Public Library, suitable for young people. Mr. Dougan has been fairly catholic in his choice.

**Radcliffe.**—Mr. H. Lord, of Manchester, is the architect selected for the erection of the new Public Library, to stand on the site of the Old Bridge Wesleyan Chapel.

The *Bury Guardian*, June 17th, gave a good view of the appearance the building will present.

**Richmond, Surrey.**—Mr. A. A. Barkas, the librarian, reported, on June 7th, to the Public Library Committee, that Councillor A. Chancellor had presented the library with a map of Surrey as it was 1086 A.D. The map was drawn by Mr. H. E. Malden, M.A., a well-known archæologist at Guildford.

**Shiloh.**—More than two-and-a-half years ago Dr. Carnegie made an offer of £1,000 for a Public Library. Nothing further has been done until the present time. Now we note that Mr. R. A. Worthing is engaged upon plans, so it seems that after many days Shiloh is to have its library.

**Shrewsbury.**—Saturday, June 10th, witnessed the opening of the Christian Public Library, Mr. S. T. Evans performing the ceremony. Dr. Carnegie has given £2,000 towards the building, Mr. J. Cook fees being the architect. Mrs. Tennant of Cadogan Lodge generously presented the site.

**Sydney, N.S.W.**—Three sites are in question for the erection of the new Public Library to be built to contain not only the present large collection of books, but also those comprised in the fine library handed to the State by Mr. Mitchell. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Huggin, is taking an active interest, fully realizing the need for a suitable building in which to house the valuable books.

**Timolev.**—June 8th saw the opening ceremony in connection with the new Public Library erected mainly through Dr. Carnegie's grant of £1,500. The site was given by Earl FitzWilliam. In the *Rockhampton Advertiser* of June 10th, is an illustration of the new building. It appears to be of a simple but somewhat villa-like type, and the surrounding grounds are laid out with plants and shrubs.

**Tokio.**—The Japanese are (according to the *Tatler*) to be congratulated on their taste in literature. From the report of the librarian of the Imperial Library it appears that there is little or no demand for fiction, and while 12,486 works relating to theology and religion, or only 1.6 per cent. of the total number of books in the library, were asked for according to the records of the past year, there were demanded by readers 166,677 volumes, or 21.6 per cent., classified under the head of mathematics, science, and medicine.

**Venice.**—An indirect result of the fall of the Campanile, two years ago, has been the removal of the Marciana Library from the Doge's Palace, where the weight of its 200,000 volumes threatened the stability of the building, to the Palazzo della Zecca, a more suitable, though old, building, close to the recent home of the library.

**Worthing.**—Mr. Henry A. Crouch's design for the Public Library, Technical School, and School of Art is published, together with plans, in the *Builders' Journal*, June 14th.

Mr. Crouch's design was selected from among a large number of plans sent in competition.

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**Mr. E. J. Wilkins** has received the appointment of Secretary to the Poole Library Committee, in addition to his librarianship of the Public Library.

**Mr. Neesham**, Assistant Librarian of the Stockport Library, has been appointed Chief Librarian at Gainsborough.

particular longitude. From the struts, steel pointers are lowered and so manipulated as to indicate any position on the map exactly. Each pointer bears a number which corresponds with the number of a compartment in the slot explanation frame alongside. The location of events of sufficient importance is carried out each morning, and notes of explanation are inserted in the frame calling attention to books in the library bearing upon the subject. Standing as it does at the entrance to the newsroom great interest is shewn in the Events Indicator, and arrangements are in progress for scholars at local schools to inspect the device daily.

**Long Eaton.**—Sir Walter Foster, M.P., laid the foundation-stone of the new Public Library on Saturday, June 3rd. Dr. Carnegie gave £3,000 towards the building, which is designed by Messrs. Gorman & Rose.

**Loughborough.**—On June 21st, the new Public Library was opened; £3,000 placed at the disposal of the town by Dr. Carnegie, and a site given by Mr. F. R. Griggs, having enabled the Town Council to proceed with the building.

The erection is of somewhat striking character, and is much to the credit of Messrs. Barrowcliff & Alcock, the architects, as we stated in our issue of March.

The reading room is a special feature of the building; it is rectangular up to a height of thirteen feet, covered with octagonal dome twenty-seven feet above the floor level.

**Natal.**—Commodious premises have been secured by the Natal Society for its valuable library. A new building was opened by Sir Henry McCullum, the Governor of Natal, in the presence of a representative gathering; among others present being the Very Revd. Dean Green, one of the original founders of the Natal Society some fifty-three years ago.

**Newcastle-on-Tyne.**—Walker, now become part of Newcastle, desires a branch library, and it seems likely the Mechanics' Institute will become its home.

**Oxford.**—Mr. J. L. Dougan, the Chief Librarian, has compiled a catalogue which will be welcomed by those who watch over the young. It is a complete list of books, in the Public Library, suitable for young people. Mr. Dougan has been fairly catholic in his choice.

**Radcliffe.**—Mr. H. Lord, of Manchester, is the architect selected for the erection of the new Public Library, to stand on the site of the Old Bridge Wesleyan Chapel.

The *Bury Guardian*, June 17th, gave a good view of the appearance the building will present.

**Richmond, Surrey.**—Mr. A. A. Barkas, the librarian, reported, on June 7th, to the Public Library Committee, that Councillor A. Chancellor had presented the library with a map of Surrey as it was 1086 A.D. The map was drawn by Mr. H. E. Malden, M.A., a well-known archæologist at Guildford.

**Shildon.**—More than two-and-a-half years ago Dr. Carnegie made an offer of £2,000 for a Public Library. Nothing further has been done until the present time. Now we note that Mr. R. R. Kitching is engaged upon plans, so it seems that after many days, Shildon is to have its library.

**Skewen.**—Saturday, June 10th, witnessed the opening of the Coedfranc Public Library, Mr. S. T. Evnns performing the ceremony. Dr. Carnegie has given £2,000 towards the building, Mr. J. Cook Rees being the architect. Mrs. Tenant of Cadoxton Lodge generously presented the site.

**Sydney, N.S.W.**—Three sites are in question for the erection of the new Public Library to be built to contain, not only the present large collection of books, but also those comprised in the fine library handed to the State by Mr. Mitchell. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Hogue, is taking an active interest, fully realizing the need for a suitable building in which to house the valuable books.

**Tinsley.**—June 8th saw the opening ceremony in connection with the new Public Library erected mainly through Dr. Carnegie's grant of £1,500. The site was given by Earl FitzWilliam. In the *Rotherham Advertiser* of June 10th, is an illustration of the new building. It appears to be of a simple but somewhat villa-like type, and the surrounding grounds are laid out with plants and shrubs,

**Tokio.**—The Japanese are (according to the *Tatler*) to be congratulated on their taste in literature. From the report of the librarian of the Imperial Library it appears that there is little or no demand for fiction, and while 12,486 works relating to theology and religion, or only 1.6 per cent. of the total number of books in the library, were asked for according to the records of the past year, there were demanded by readers 166,677 volumes, or 21.6 per cent., classified under the head of mathematics, science, and medicine.

**Yenice.**—An indirect result of the fall of the Campanile, two years ago, has been the removal of the Marciana Library from the Doge's Palace, where the weight of its 200,000 volumes threatened the stability of the building, to the Palazzo della Zecca, a more suitable, though old, building, close to the recent home of the library.

**Worthing.**—Mr. Henry A. Crouch's design for the Public Library, Technical School, and School of Art is published, together with plans, in the *Builders' Journal*, June 14th.

Mr. Crouch's design was selected from among a large number of plans sent in competition.

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**Mr. E. J. Wilkins** has received the appointment of Secretary to the Poole Library Committee, in addition to his librarianship of the Public Library.

**Mr. Neesham**, Assistant Librarian of the Stockport Library, has been appointed Chief Librarian at Gainsborough.



We regret to learn of the death of **Mr. Richard Perkins** who was for forty years the assistant and Sub-librarian of Sion College. Mr. Perkins was in his 76th year. The funeral took place on May 27th.

**Mr. Charles Alfred Harris**, formerly an assistant at the Bishopsgate Institute, has been appointed Sub-Librarian of the Central Library, Deptford Public Libraries, S.E.



## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Boccaccio** (Giovanni, 1313-1375). The Decameron. Faithfully translated by J. M. Rigg, with an essay on Boccaccio as man and author by John A. Symonds. London: George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8', pp. lxiv. + 332 and 404. Price 6s. net.

A very complete and true rendering of Boccaccio, in many respects the best English version in existence, which was originally issued by Mr. A. H. Bullen. It forms one of the series of "Early Novelists" edited by Mr. E. A. Baker, and should be placed in every reference library.

**Browne** (Henry). Handbook of Homeric study. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi. + 334. *Illust.* Price 6s. net.

A complete historical and critical survey of the evolution of the Homeric poems (the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey") and the mass of controversial matter which has grown up around them.

An excellent specimen of a literary text-book, well-arranged, indexed and illustrated, containing full statements of the many problems connected with the study of the Homeric poems, and giving references to authorities and notes on the different theories and schools of criticism. A valuable text-book for literary students and a useful reference work for the library.

**Flood** (Wm. H. Grattan). A History of Irish music. Dublin: Browne & Nolan, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi. + 358. Price

A summary of the history of music in Ireland from the earliest to recent times, with chapters on Anglo-Irish music, O'Carolan, Irish pipers, Handel and Arne in Ireland, Harp Festivals and Harp Societies, &c.

Mr. Flood has rendered a service to musical students, by writing a history of Irish music which presents in a compact form, all the facts and theories accumulated by earlier writers, together with a large amount of original information. Practically every aspect of musical history and tradition in Ireland is dealt with, and Mr. Flood may be congratulated upon having prepared a perfect quarry of novel and useful suggestions. The chief fault of the book is its extreme patriotism, which might even lead a mere outsider to believe that the original music to the Psalms of David was composed by some early Irish band! When we are solemnly told that such tunes as "Sumer is icumin in," "God save the King," and so forth, are merely revisions of Irish airs, it is manifest that Mr. Flood's enthusiasm rather smothers up his critical faculty. There is much positive assertion throughout the book which is unsupported by any satisfactory proof, and we are asked to accept as evidence all kinds of interpretations of old documents which are capable of being read in a dozen different ways. With this warning against the authority of Mr. Flood's book, which is much more patriotic than critical, we heartily commend the work to the notice of librarians.

**Fraser** (John F.). *Canada as it is*. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii + 304. *Illustr.* Price 6s.

A survey of the political, commercial, agricultural, social and material condition of present-day Canada.

This is one of the most vivid impressionistic sketches of a country we have read for many a day, and it conveys a good idea of Canada in a more forcible, picturesque, and even enduring manner than dozens of formal and ponderous books, making more claim to exactness. Checking Mr. Fraser's opinions of the imitation-American bounce of the average Canadian, and the almost universal worship of mere money, by those of friends who know the country and its conditions, we should say that he has produced a work almost photographic in its accuracy.

**Galdós** (Benito Pérez). *Trafalgar*. Edited with notes and introduction by F. A. Kirkpatrick. Cambridge: University Press, 1905. 8°, 6¾", pp. xvi + 296. Price 4s.

The Spanish text of one of the romances forming the series of *Episodios Nacionales* of Galdós, edited for the Pitt Press for the use of students of Spanish language and literature. An excellent edition, most suitable for Public Library purposes.

**Gardner** (Percy). *A Grammar of Greek art*. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7¾", pp. xiv. + 268. *Illustr.* Price 7s. 6d.

A text-book of ancient Greek architecture, dress, sculpture, painting, vases, literature and painting, coins, &c., designed to illustrate the study of ancient literature and history from its art monuments.

A well illustrated survey of Greek art in all its forms, tracing its connection with mythology and history, and giving a concise view of its progress and influence. It is a volume of the "Handbooks of archæology and antiquities," edited by Professor Gardner, and is an excellent contribution to a valuable series of art manuals.

**Geikie** (James). Structural and field geology, for students of pure and applied science. Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd, 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. xx. + 436. *Illust.* Price 12s. 6d. net.

Professor Geikie describes his book as addressed to beginners in field geology and students preparing for professions in which some knowledge of structural geology is of practical importance. It is undoubtedly attractive also to the general reader of scientific leanings, not only because it is written in an interesting style, but also because a less repulsive looking text-book it has seldom been our pleasure to handle. The admirable photographic illustrations, and general brightness of the volume added to the great authority of its author, make it by far the most valuable and attractive geological text-book in English we have seen. Every library should possess it as a necessary addition to the geological section, and as an example of a text-book which is also more than a mere school book.

**Goodliffe** (W.). Horsham and St. Leonard's Forest with their surroundings . . . with a chapter on Christ's Hospital, by R. H. Hamilton. London: The Homeland Association, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 108. *Maps, plans, illust.* Price 1s. net.

**Morris** (Joseph E.). Lynton, Lynmouth and Lorna Doone country . . . London: The Homeland Association, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. vi. + 84. *Maps, illust.* Price 6d. net.

Volumes 36 and 37 of the Homeland Handbooks, than which there are no better local guide books in existence. The exhaustive examination of the "Doone" traditions and topography of "Lorna Doone" in Mr. Morris' book are admirable, and should prove valuable to the touring novel-reader.

**Hasluck** (Paul N.) *ed.* The Book of photography, practical, theoretic and applied. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 9", pp. xl. + 744. *Illust.* Price 10s. 6d.

A complete work on photography, covering every process from the most elementary to the most advanced, has long been wanted in public libraries, in place of the numerous cheap text-books in pamphlet form which are such a nuisance to stock. Such a work Mr. Hasluck has produced with the aid of many experts, and the result is a complete compendium of photographic art, which deals with everything from cameras to colour-photography, radiography, and animated photography. Altogether a most useful and comprehensive work, which every library should possess.

**Hueffer** (Ford Madox). The Soul of London: a survey of a modern city. London: Alston Rivers, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi. + 176. Price 5s. net. [NO INDEX.]

Papers on—London from a distance; Roads into London; Work in London; London at leisure; Rest in London.

A series of thoughtful impressions and close studies of the varied life of modern London, illustrative of its psychology, impressiveness in different directions, and general atmosphere.

**Jerrold** (Walter). A Descriptive index to Shakespeare's characters in Shakespeare's words. London: George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., [1904]. 8°, 4", pp. xvi. + 176. Price 1s. net.

Alphabetical index of names, with descriptive extracts from the plays; an index of places, and list of plays.

A new and useful volume of Routledge's Miniature Reference Library.

**Lang** (Andrew). Oxford: brief historical and descriptive notes. New edition. London: Seeley & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7", pp. xvi. + 282. *Illust.* Price 2s. net. [NO INDEX.]

A reprint in handy form of Mr. Lang's popular work on Oxford and its colleges, with reproductions of the original etchings, well adapted for use in lending departments.

**M'Dougall** (E. H.). Landmarks of European History. London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7", pp. x. + 303. Price 3s. 6d.

Deals with the more important elements in the making of Europe from the time of the Roman Empire until modern days. Eleven maps in the text, and four coloured maps elucidate the subject matter.

Considering the limitation in the purpose of the work—prepared for use in a Training College in Cairo—the amount of information supplied in condensed form is remarkable. As the preface states "the English school-boy is far too ignorant of European history," such a text-book as this should go far to encourage a wider history teaching in the upper forms of schools.

**Marguerite of Navarre**, 1492-1549. The Heptameron, or tales and novels of Marguerite, Queen of Navarre. Trans. by Arthur Machen. London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xx. + 392. Price 6s. net.

A volume of the important reprints of "Early Novelists" edited by Mr. E. A. Baker, in which will be included a number of the epoch-making novels which cannot be obtained in modern form. Mr. Machen's version, which is here re-issued, was originally published for private circulation, and is valuable for its bibliographical introduction. By issuing these reprints, Messrs. Routledge are doing much to fill up the gaps which exist in the sequence of great novels.

**Mayo** (Walter H.). The Trinity House, London, past and present. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 100. *Illust.* Price 5s. net.

A history of the Corporation of Trinity House, describing the early functions of the Elder Brethren as defenders of the coast against invasion, and their present work in the foundation and maintenance of lighthouses and sea marks in England, supervision of pilots, &c.

**Morgan** (R. B.). Introductory mathematics. With over 100 diagrams. London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7¼", pp. vi. + 152. Price 5s.

The elements of Algebra; experimental course in practical geometry; the graphical solution of equations and the plotting of curves from statistics.

A useful book on the elements of mathematics, designed as an introduction to the study of more advanced work.

**Ommanney** (E. C.) *ed.* True to the flag. Sailor's poems. London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. Sq. 8°, 5½", pp. xvi + 240. Price 1s. net. [NO INDEX.]

A selection of poems and songs from English and American authors, describing the sea in its various aspects, great naval battles, sea life; and designed to stimulate patriotism.

**Rathgen** (Friedrich). The Preservation of Antiquities, a handbook for curators. Translated from the German by George A. Auden and Harold A. Auden. Cambridge: The University Press, 1905. 8°, 7", pp. xiv. + 176. Price 4s. 6d. net.

Part I. is mainly devoted to the chemical causes of decay in articles of stone, metal, and organic substance, with tables of analysis, etc.

Part II. contains 100 pages relating to preservative methods, etc.

It is not too much to say that Part II. contains matter so invaluable to collectors and curators, that every museum should possess a copy of this book. The aim has been so to describe the requisite manipulations that the treatment of objects affected may be readily accomplished.

**Reid** (Alan). Picturesque Forfarshire. Dundee: Valentine & Sons. Ltd. [1905]. 8°, 7½", pp. 136. *Illust. Map.* Price [NO INDEX.]

Sketches of the principal historical and other localities in Forfarshire, illustrated with 30 reproductions of photographs of scenes, castles, towns, &c.

The first of "The Shire Series" edited by A. H. Millar, presenting in a brief and handy form the principal historical and traditionary annals of the county, with numerous topographical details.

**Shorthouse** (J. H.). Life and letters. Edited by his wife. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8¼", 2 vols. *Ports., illust.* Price 17s. net.

v. 1. Life and letters of the novelist and essayist (1834-1903) who wrote "John Inglesant" and other novels.

v. 2. *Essays, stories and poems.*—Essays—Books *versus* books; Chivalry; Epitaphs; Successor of Monsieur Le Sage [Geo. Borrow]; Bede; "Morte d'Arthur"; "Paradise Lost"; Literature; Supernaturalism; the End of Learning; the Platonism of Wordsworth; the Humorous in Literature; Molinos (golden thoughts); F. D. Maurice; Restraining self-denial in art.

An admirable memorial to a novelist who has left a permanent mark on the literature of his time, and one which every library should possess as a pendant to, and commentary on, his writings.

**Thayer** (Wm. Roscoe). A Short history of Venice. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1905. 8°, 7", pp. xviii. + 356. *Maps, bibliography.* Price 6s. 6d. net.

A comprehensive history of the city and republic of Venice from 421 to 1797, with a chronology and list of Doges.

A useful and interesting work, worthy of a place beside the books of Horatio Brown and others.

**Williamson** (George C.) *Milton*. London: Geo. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. 114. *Ports., illust.* Price 1s. net. [NO INDEX.]

A new volume of Bell's miniature series of great writers, giving in a concise and clear form Milton's biography, descriptions of his prose and poetical works, and reference to his biographers and portraits.

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*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

Sir—I should like to bring to your notice a book in the hope that you may include it in a forthcoming instalment of "The Book-Selector" which forms one of the most useful features of the *Library World*. This "Book-Selector" has been most useful to me. I always go through it carefully and mark the most suitable books, and an assistant enters them on cards for placing before the Committee. This book appears to have been overlooked, and as it is by far the most important work on its subject that has appeared in recent years I think most librarians will be glad to know of it. Also it will be doing a good turn to its author, who enjoys the friendship of several members of the profession, and who has sunk in it a considerable sum out of pure love of bibliographical craftsmanship. The book is:—

**Thomas** (Ralph). *Swimming*: with list of books published in English, German, French, and other European languages; and critical remarks on the theory and practice of swimming and resuscitation, biography, history, bibliography. 100 illustrations. S. Low & Co. 1904. 10s. 6d. net.

Mr. Thomas ("Olphar Hamst") is so well known for his bibliographical and philological work as to need no introduction to most librarians.

Yours, etc.,

JOHN W. LISTER, *Librarian*.

*Borough of Hove Free Public Library,  
Hove, Sussex.*

[We shall always be glad to receive notes bearing on the important work of Book Selection, and if any librarian who comes across a new book, either in English or otherwise, will annotate it, we shall be pleased to print any suitable notice sent.—*Ed.*]



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION, 1905.

THE recently issued report and pass list of the Board of Examiners of the Library Association is a most satisfactory document, and affords convincing testimony of the zeal for professional improvement and advancement which now animates library assistants all over the country. The percentage of passes is higher than ever it was before, while the number of Honours and Merit passes is also most gratifying. Some of the candidates have passed in four subjects, others in two, and one young lady has pluckily secured three certificates. When one considers the difficulty of the subjects and the enormous variety of topics to be memorized, as revealed by the Syllabus, it must be regarded as a matter for congratulation that so many intelligent and persevering assistants have been attracted to the Public Library service. If the effort to provide adequate instruction is continued, and the same interest in self-improvement is manifested on the part of assistants, there can be little doubt that before long the efficiency of Public Libraries will be greatly improved, and, as a natural consequence, the status of librarians of all grades will be much enhanced. It is certain that in the near future the only evidence of professional qualifications which will be accepted by Library Authorities will be the L.A. certificates, and for this reason it is necessary for everyone desirous of succeeding in librarianship to procure these certificates as soon as possible. Luckily, practical means of instruction are now within the reach of everyone, and it is not saying too much to claim for the recent successful issue of the L. A. Examination, that the development of the teaching side of the work is responsible for the results achieved. A few years ago the L.A. completely revised their Syllabus, and placed their scheme of instruction on a thoroughly sound and practical basis. The London School of Economics, by forming classes and making known the work, also contributed materially to the success of the courses, and placed them on a firm foundation. Then came Correspondence Classes in two of the subjects, suggested by the Library Assistants' Association, we believe, with good results. Finally, the whole of these influences have been made operative by the devotion and energy of Mr. H. D. Roberts, late of St. Saviour Library, Southwark, and his colleagues on the Education Committee of the L.A. Without such energy and interest it is certain no such excellent results would have been possible. To keep in more complete touch with assistants all over the country, it seems necessary to further develop the correspondence class side of the work, and extend it to such teachable subjects as classification, cataloguing, and literary history. If this were done it is more than likely the whole of the libraries of the country would gradually come to recognize the importance of the training, and encourage their staffs to take up the courses. In many cases Library Authorities pay all fees,

and in others they provide all necessary text-books, so that even assistants in minor positions with little pay can hope to better themselves by taking advantage of the opportunities for improvement now offered. We heartily congratulate the Library Association on the success of its Educational work, and trust it will be extended to rival, if not exceed, the work of the various American teaching centres.

## PASS LIST.

*Section I.*—LITERARY HISTORY (4 candidates).

Passed :—

W. C. B. Sayers, Public Library, Croydon.

*Section II.*—ELEMENTS OF PRACTICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY (II candidates).

Passed :—

Miss Alice Jones, Public Library, Finsbury.  
 W. C. B. Sayers, Public Library, Croydon.  
 George A. Stephens, Bishopsgate Institute, E.C.  
 T. E. Turnbull, Public Library, Newcastle-on-Tyne.  
 John Warner, Public Library, Croydon.

*Section III.*—CLASSIFICATION (5 candidates).

Passed with merit :—

G. V. R. Haywood, Public Library, Watford.  
 Miss Edith Lea, Public Library, Wigan,  
 Alexander Strain, Ballymacarrett Branch Library, Belfast.  
 W. B. Young, Public Library, Leyton.

Passed :—

Miss G. Wynne, The Library, London School of Economics.

*Section IV.*—CATALOGUING (6 candidates).

Passed with merit :—

John Warner, Public Library, Croydon.

Passed :—

Alexander Strain, Ballymacarrett Branch Library, Belfast.

*Section V.*—LIBRARY HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION (25 candidates).

Passed with Honours :—

W. R. B. Prideaux, The Library, Royal College of Physicians.  
 W. C. B. Sayers, Public Library, Croydon.

Passed with merit :—

Thomas Coulson, Public Library, Sunderland.  
 F. Dallimore, Public Library, Wimbledon.  
 H. Percival, Victoria University Library, Manchester.  
 J. Pomfret, Public Library, Blackburn.  
 Alexander Strain, Ballymacarrett Branch Library, Belfast.  
 T. E. Turnbull, Public Library, Newcastle-on-Tyne.



## Passed :—

George B. Churchill, Public Library, Croydon.  
 George E. Denne, Public Library, Richmond, Surrey.  
 Herbert H. Edwards, Public Library, St. Helens.  
 J. B. Ellison, Leeds Institute, Leeds.  
 Miss L. Fairweather, Public Library, Kingston-on-Thames.  
 J. W. Lambert, Public Library, Sunderland.  
 Robert Lillie, Free Library and Museum, Middlesbrough.  
 R. D. Macleod, Public Library, Greenock.  
 H. R. W. Peters, Public Library, Battersea.  
 F. Seward, Public Library, Bromley, Kent.  
 Henry A. Twort, Public Library, Croydon.  
 R. G. Williams, Free Library, Cardiff.  
 William Wilson, Public Library, Gateshead.  
 Miss G. Wynne, The Library, London School of Economics.

*Section VI.*—PRATICAL LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION (35 candidates).

## Passed with Honours :—

H. Percival, Victoria University Library, Manchester.  
 J. Pomfret, Public Library, Blackburn.  
 W. R. B. Prideaux, The Library, Royal College of Physicians.  
 W. C. B. Sayers, Public Library, Croydon.

## Passed with merit :—

J. Bailey, Public Library, Hampstead.  
 F. Dallimore, Public Library, Wimbledon.  
 George E. Denne, Public Library, Richmond, Surrey.  
 R. D. Macleod, Public Library, Greenock.  
 Frank Pocock, Public Library, Holborn.  
 Alexander Strain, Ballymacarrett, Branch Library, Belfast.  
 William Wilson, Public Library, Gateshead.

## Passed :—

E. J. Bradley, Public Library, Holborn.  
 Fred Bullock, Cathays Branch Library, Cardiff.  
 George B. Churchill, Public Library, Croydon.  
 Robert Cooper, Public Library, Wandsworth.  
 Herbert H. Edwards, Public Library, St. Helens.  
 J. B. Ellison, Leeds Institute, Leeds.  
 Miss L. Fairweather, Public Library, Kingston-on-Thames.  
 W. C. Farnell, Free Library, Walsall.  
 Harold Griffiths, Public Library, Sunderland.  
 O. C. Hudson, Public Library, Goole.  
 Robert Lillie, Free Library and Museum, Middlesbrough.  
 Ernest Luke, Public Library, Woolwich.  
 H. R. W. Peters, Public Library, Battersea.  
 F. Seward, Public Library, Bromley, Kent.  
 Henry A. Twort, Public Library, Croydon.  
 Arthur J. Warman, Public Library, Evesham.  
 R. G. Williams, Free Library, Cardiff.  
 Miss G. Wynne, The Library, London School of Economics.  
 J. D. Young, Public Library, Fulham.



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
AT CAMBRIDGE, 22-24 AUGUST, 1905.

PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

TUESDAY, 22nd AUGUST, 1905.

First Morning Session (in the Guildhall).

- o. Preliminary Business.
1. **President's Address** ; by Francis Jenkinson, M.A., Litt.D., University Librarian.
2. **Organisation and Methods of the Cambridge University Library** ; by H. G. Aldis, M.A., Secretary, University Library.
3. **After Fifty Years** ; by John Pink, Librarian, Public Library, Cambridge.
4. **Further Discussion on the "Report of the Committee on Public Education and Public Libraries,"** Opened by:—  
Alexander Hill, M.A., D.D., Master of Downing College.

WEDNESDAY, 23rd AUGUST, 1905.

Second Morning Session (in Special Lecture Hall).

5. **Evolution of the Library (Lantern Lecture)** ; by J. Willis Clark, M.A., Litt.D., Registrar of the University. Discussion to be opened by:—  
H. R. Tedder, F.S.A., Librarian and Secretary, The Athenæum, London.  
W. R. B. Prideaux, B.A., Asst. Librarian, Royal College of Physicians, London.
- Bookbinding.*
6. **Bookbinding and Book Production (Lantern Lecture)** ; by Cyril J. Davenport, V.D., F.S.A., British Museum.
7. **Library Binderies (some notes)** ; by E. R. Norris Mathews, Librarian, Public Libraries, Bristol.
8. **Library Bookbinding** ; by Cedric Chivers, Bookbinder, Bath. Discussion on the three "Bookbinding" Papers to be opened by:—  
Francis T. Barrett, Librarian, Public Libraries, Glasgow.  
E. Wyndham Hulme, Librarian, Patent Office Library, London.

Afternoon Session (in the Guildhall).

*Co-operation ; and Central Cataloguing.*

9. **Library Grouping** ; by Lawrence Inkster, Librarian, Public Libraries, Battersea. Discussion to be opened by:—  
C. W. Sutton, M.A., Librarian, Public Libraries, Manchester.
10. **A Central Cataloguing Bureau** ; by J. Y. W. MacAlister, F.S.A., Secretary, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. Discussion to be opened by:—  
W. E. Doubleday, Librarian, Public Libraries, Hampstead.
11. **Library Politics** ; by John Ballinger, Librarian, Public Libraries, Cardiff. Discussion to be opened by:—  
John Minto, M.A., Librarian, Public Library, Brighton.

Evening Session.

12. **Annual Business Meeting.**

THURSDAY, 24th AUGUST, 1905.

Third Morning Session.

*Newsrooms ; and Sunday Opening.*

13. **Newsrooms ; are they Desirable?** A Discussion to be opened by:—  
(a) Sir William H. Bailey. *Newsrooms desirable.*  
(b) J. A. Charlton Deas, Librarian, Public Library, Sunderland  
*Newsrooms undesirable.*

\* This Paper will be printed and taken as read.

14. **Sunday Opening of Libraries**; by A. Capel Shaw, Librarian, Public Libraries, Birmingham. Discussion to be opened by:—  
 (a) Mark H. Judge, Hon. Sec., Sunday Society for opening Museums, &c. *Sunday Opening desirable.*  
 (b) Frederic Peake, M.A., LL.D., Secretary, Lord's Day Observance Society. *Sunday Opening undesirable.*

Second Afternoon Session.

*Library Planning.*

15. **Joint Conference on Library Planning.** Papers to be read by:—

(a) Henry T. Hare, Vice-President, R.I.B.A.

(b) F. J. Burgoyne, Librarian, Public Libraries, Lambeth.

and discussed by the following Fellows of the Royal Institute of British Architects:—J. W. Simpson, Leonard Stokes, S. K. Greenslade, Maurice B. Adams, Beresford Pite; and the Members of the Library Association.

*Catalogue. Rules.*

16. **Further Report of Committee on Cataloguing Rules**; presented by John Minto, M.A., Hon. Secretary of the Committee.

*Best Books of 1904.*

The most important books in various Classes of Literature will be exhibited at Cambridge, and the complete lists published in the *Library Association Record*.

#### EXHIBITIONS.

1. A General Exhibit of **Library Appliances.**
2. An Exhibit of **Bookbinding and Materials.**
3. An Exhibit of **Plans and Photographs** illustrative of recent Library Planning.
4. An Exhibit (with the co-operation of the Publishers concerned) of the **Best Books of 1904.**



## SCHOOL LIBRARIES.\*

By BENJAMIN CARTER, *Librarian, Kingston-on-Thames Public Library.*

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IN dealing with the subject of school libraries at a meeting of educationalists, it will be quite unnecessary to advance any arguments in praise of reading. I do not anticipate that any here will attempt to controvert the dicta of the greatest minds on the benefits to be derived from reading. Rather would I sound a note of warning. After all that has been said in praise of books and reading, of the pleasures and profit reading can bring, there is nothing with which you have to deal in the present day which calls for more careful regulation, more vigilant watchfulness. Printing, like all other good things, is not an unmixed blessing; for while bestowing blessings with one hand, it distributes something very like curses with the other. Just think for one moment of the enormous mass of garbage that is daily turned out by the Press—the halfpenny “funnies” and “comics,” and the still more objectionable “stories.” These are the things which fall into the hands of children at the most impressionable period of their lives, and exercise the most lamentable influence on their future character. That is the darker side of the picture, but it is there that the influence and guidance of the teacher is more urgently required. The great argument in favour of school or juvenile libraries is that children shall have access to good books; that by the help of the teacher they shall learn to so enjoy and appreciate the good that they will instinctively reject the bad. It is very desirable if you wish to take full advantage of your opportunities that you should acquire some general knowledge of juvenile literature. I do not mean that you should lay yourselves out to read all the books; life is much too short; but there is a method of skipping through a book which is well known to librarians and, I believe, also to reviewers, by which it is possible to quickly gain an insight of its contents, the author's style and manner of treatment, which will be quite sufficient for your purpose. Beware, I beseech you, of the goody-goody style of books of a generation ago; present day children won't read them (I very much doubt if children ever did, I didn't). You will probably be impressed with the dearth of good, healthy girls' books; but that need not trouble you, they will read and enjoy the books provided for their brothers.

I would like to impress upon you the true value of books, to warn you against indiscriminate valuation of them, for there is a tendency to over-estimate their value. Matthew Arnold gives three methods of attaining mental culture: reading, observing, thinking. Reading is, perhaps, the least of these. Books are a valuable instrument, they record other people's experience and thought, and often prevent us turning down blind alleys. They widen our vision, extend our range of life, and stimulate thought; but, after all, they are only a means to

\* Read before the Surrey Educational Conference at Kingston-on-Thames.

an end. People are ever ready to substitute books for thought. In the present day there is too much—much too much—reading, and too little thinking. Idle, desultory reading induces flabbiness of mind: the power of thought is lost, we become disinclined to think out things for ourselves, and are content to take our opinions from others, ready made. Those are the evils which need to be corrected. Children from their earliest years should be taught to read carefully, intelligently, systematically. A few good books, well read, lived with, will do more to form the mind and build up the character of a child than all the magazines and other ephemeral publications which flow from the press in such a vast stream. You teach a child to read; surely for its own good, for the good of the State, you should teach it how to read, and what to read.

Teachers will find that the recreative reading of their pupils, properly directed, may be made a valuable aid to their teaching. Courses of reading should be drawn up on such subjects as history, geography, and nature-study, which may, and should be made interesting. Biographies are excellent aids to the formation of character. Do not neglect the imaginative side of literature, either poetry or prose; nothing appeals so strongly to children; and for the younger ones there is nothing to equal a fairy tale. At the same time I would not have you overlook the more serious books; children will read them if carefully selected; and there is an ample stock to select from.

School libraries are of quite recent growth, and the idea, or, at all events, the first practical application of it, is American. The Americans were the first to realise "that a collection of books might properly be associated with the work in the common schools of the country, schools designed for and patronised by the children of the average citizen." It is only within recent years that librarians generally, even the most progressive among them "have realised that one of the most important fields of work for a collection of books, is the seconding the efforts of the school to start the children of the country on the road to good citizenship." In England the first serious attempt to organize school libraries was made at Bootle by the Library Committee, a few other towns following with varying measures of success; but the unaided library rate has never been equal to the burden such libraries entail. A few years ago Cardiff organized on much sounder lines. The School Board undertook to find the money, and the Library Committee to administer the libraries, a joint committee of management being appointed from the two bodies. This is an ideal arrangement, by which the library funds are left free for the more legitimate work of a Public Library, and the education authority secures the services of a trained professional staff. The work has been taken over by the new education authority, and is being extended to the non-provided schools. Since the new Education Act came into force I hear of a good deal of activity on the part of library and education authorities in the matter of school libraries. There is a good example of the Cardiff system close at home: it has been in operation at Croydon for six months with considerable success, the issues numbering over 8,000 volumes monthly.

A purely library system is that of a separate juvenile department, which has been adopted in several Public Libraries during recent years. In describing the Kingston methods I shall cover the chief points of the system as it is generally worked. The collection may be shelved, as at Kingston, within the general lending library, or it may be in a part of the building devoted entirely to children, and in connection with the juvenile reading room. The library contains books in all classes of literature suitable for children up to the age of 14. The usual guarantee is not required, a simple recommendation, carrying no financial responsibility, from the head teacher being substituted. The system was introduced at Kingston in 1898, and has been very successful. There are usually between 700 and 800 children borrowers. I have said nothing of the working of the system within the schools; I prefer that some of the Kingston teachers should speak on that point in the ensuing discussion. Personally I prefer this system: it does not interfere with the teachers' influence: they are supplied with catalogues and the quarterly lists of additions to the library, and I am always pleased to receive suggestions from them. But the children derive the greatest advantage: individually they have access to a much larger collection all through the year, there being no break during the holidays. They early become acquainted with the Public Library and its attractions, and learn to use and appreciate their own institution like other citizens. At the end of their school lives they are not strangers to the Public Library, as they probably would be had they got their books from the school.

So far I have only dealt with the provisions of books for children by, or in connection with, Public Libraries. There is the larger area of the county where no such institutions are, and it is equally important that children in the county schools should be supplied with books. The County Council of Cambridge provided travelling libraries for their technical schools so long ago, I believe, as 1894, and the same has now been done for the elementary schools under the new Education Act.

The regulations state that a central library has been formed consisting of Books on Agricultural, Natural and Domestic Science, and other allied subjects, and on the various handicrafts. The object of the library is to supply, to adults more particularly, both technical and general reading on a greater variety of subjects than it would be possible to deal with in classes and lectures, and so cover a wider range of work, and meet the wants of a greater number of people. Boxes of fifty and sixty books are lent for a period of about three months at a time to villages where local committees have been formed. Each box contains a list of the books in bold characters to be posted in some convenient place in the village for general information. The local committee appoints a librarian: they are responsible for the safe return of the books in good condition, and must make good any damage caused otherwise than by reasonable usage, and provide for the carriage of the box both ways. The local committee may make local regulations which must be submitted for the approval of the Education Committee. They may make a charge of a penny a month for the use

of the books to defray expenses, and receive the fines on overdue. The regulations were evidently printed before the establishment of the school libraries, so that I have no particulars of the arrangements therewith.

It does not appear that the technical books are confined to the use of students of the technical classes : apparently the local committees may lend the books to any person. The County Councils of Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, are now engaged in organizing school libraries. In Westmoreland the county schools are supplied from the Kendal Public Library, for which the County Council pays a subscription to the Library Committee, and all expenses. Education authorities throughout the country are evidently beginning to realise that libraries should form part of the educational machinery, and we may reasonably hope that before many years have passed every scholar in the elementary and secondary schools of the country will have access to books, either at the schools or Public Libraries.

I now come to another important aspect of my subject : the provision of technical books. I use the term in its widest sense, and include under it : Libraries for Art and Technical Schools ; small reference collections for every school ; Teachers' libraries. Technical books are to the professional and business man what tools are to the mechanic, and none can afford to neglect them, least of all teachers. Class teaching is not an end in itself, it is only a preparation for further study, and no earnest student will remain content with it, but will desire to supplement it by a study of the more advanced text-books. Now, technical books are very expensive, and as science is ever advancing they require to be frequently replaced by new editions. I need not remind you that an out-of-date text-book is a snare. How then is the student at the technical school to get these books unless they are provided for him by the education authority or by the Public Library ? He certainly cannot buy them himself. Here then is a clear need for technical libraries. We have seen what the Cambridge County Council has done ; the Public Libraries have done all that their limited means will allow, many having been helped by grants from County Councils. But outside the library districts and the County of Cambridge, I do not know that any provision has been made to enable students to follow up their class teaching by the study of technical literature.

Teachers are probably agreed as to the desirability of a small collection of books for purely reference purposes in every school ; a collection of working tools, which should include a good cyclopædia, such as Chambers', a Gazetteer, a Biographical dictionary, a Chronology, an English dictionary, and such other books as might prove useful.

A select library of books on the science of education for the use of teachers is very desirable. There is hardly any class of workers which has a greater need for books : in a progressive science like education it is absolutely necessary if the teacher is to keep himself abreast of the times, and it is all to the advantage of the State that he should do so, that he should have access to the best books. Such a library could be kept at the County Education Office, and regulations made for the

delivery of books to teachers on application, and their return. Or the County Council might very well arrange with the committee of a Public Library in its area for the housing and distribution of the books: they could be kept in the reference department, and those not on loan be available for consultation by the general public. So likewise with a technical collection assigned to a town having a Public Library: a similar agreement could be made with the library committee for the housing of the books, which should be available for general reference purposes when not used by the students.

There is a matter closely connected with the education of children, although not quite within the domain of school libraries, yet of some interest to teachers, that I would like to bring before you and offer a few suggestions. How do children amuse themselves in the winter months during the long dark evenings? Through the summer, with long hours of daylight, there are recreation grounds, and should a district be without them, or the existing ones be insufficient, children never lack champions. If it is so necessary to take the children off the streets in the summer time, what of the winter with its long, cheerless evenings? What do children then do with themselves? That the street is their playground is patent to all who have eyes to see: how can it be otherwise? Is there room in the cramped and circumscribed working-class home for that wealth of animal spirits with which the average British child is endowed? Surely not. So late as June 28th, at a meeting of the newly formed National League for Physical Education and Improvement held at the Mansion house, the Lord Chief Justice, dealing with this subject said: "Second only to drink as a cause of crime lay the difficulty of finding healthy and innocent recreation for the young. The only playground was the street by the very accident of their existence, and this led to pitch and toss, gambling, and drink.

What then can be done to remedy such a deplorable state of things? The Public Library authorities are endeavouring to do something in this direction in the provision of juvenile reading-rooms; but these rooms are only as a drop in the ocean. What tangible result can come from a reading-room accommodating 30 or 40 children in a town containing over 5,000? I do not condemn these rooms; they are extremely useful, but as reading-rooms they appeal only to a minority of the children. The American library authorities recognized this long ago, and they now provide not reading-rooms, but children's halls, which are in charge of specially trained librarians—women always—and reading is only one of many methods employed to amuse and instruct. Cardiff is about to build two children's halls, and each will be in charge of a superintendent. Reading-rooms will never meet the needs of the bulk of children: it is play-rooms that are wanted, and these can only be provided by the authority that provides the recreation grounds. Buildings would be of course the difficulty. Schools might be used, the present style of building with large central hall is well suited for the purpose. A superintendent would be necessary—a woman who understands children and is in full sympathy with them:



one of those grown-ups of whom Kenneth Grahame writes, who have not forgotten how they felt when they were children. She would teach them how to amuse themselves rationally, and direct and control them generally. A separate room with a man superintendent might be required for elder boys. If some existing building could be utilised such a scheme need not cost much, while the benefit to the community now and hereafter would be very great. I believe that work on these lines was done in South London a year or two ago by a few philanthropic ladies, but not in connection with schools. In introducing this subject I said that it was of some interest to teachers. I take it that every thing that makes for the moral and physical welfare of the child is of interest to teachers. The street as a playground is not conducive to moral and physical welfare. Its evil influences must, to a very large extent, be destructive of the influence for good which the teaching in school should exercise on the mind and character of the child.



## LIBRARY WORK WITH SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES.\*

*By L. STANLEY JAST, Chief Librarian, Croydon Public Libraries.*



1.—During my recent visit to the United States, whither I went primarily to represent the Library Association at the congress of the American Library Association, held at the St. Louis Exposition, I visited as many of the important library points, and made such examination of American library methods as my time permitted, paying particular attention to library work with schools. It has therefore seemed to me that a brief report, embodying the salient characteristics of such work, may not be without some interest to members of the Libraries and Education Committees.

2.—The following were the towns and libraries included in my tour :—New York, Brooklyn, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg, St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo, Albany, Boston, and Providence.

3.—Library work with children has been greatly developed in the United States. There is hardly a Public Library without a children's room of some sort, and in the newer library buildings the children's room is often a large and beautiful apartment. Whatever the system obtaining in the main library the books in the children's room are *always* on open shelves. Tables are provided with a selection of suitable magazines, and the room is usually gay with pictures, bulletins (see below), and flowers. The assistants in charge are invariably women, often specially trained for the work. At the Pittsburg Public

\* Report presented jointly to the Education and Libraries Committees.

Library there is a training school exclusively for children's librarians. Children are encouraged to use books in connection with their school work, and may do their home lessons in the room.

4.—The bulletins referred to above are a prominent feature of the work in many places. They consist in a general way of boards on which are written or posted lists of books on some topic of interest, or a poem (*e.g.*, a poem on the month of October), together with pictures relating to the subject of the bulletin. The children's librarians at Pittsburg and Cleveland were kind enough to promise to send me some examples of bulletin work. Some of the bulletins are very elaborate and artistic, and testify to the skill and patience of the makers. That the bulletins attract the children and exercise a directing influence on their reading seems certain; at the same time I am of opinion, as were some of the children's librarians themselves, that too much time can be spent on work of this sort, which may tend to exercise an undue fascination over the doer. When nothing too ambitious is aimed at, and the work is done at odd moments, the bulletin needs no justification; it is an admirable device to hold the attention of children.

5.—Story telling is another phase of the work of many of the children's departments. The stories are not original; they are usually taken from myths, legends, etc., and are told to the children once a week. I was not fortunate enough to hear any of these stories told.

6.—At Newark a type-written School Bulletin is circulated monthly among the teachers. This consists of a list of recent books added which are likely to have any special interest for them, and references to articles in the monthly periodicals. It is a good idea, and something of the sort, in the shape of a Teacher's column, might be carried out in our library magazine, "The Reader's Index."

7.—Circulating libraries at the schools are also a prominent feature of American library work. There are of course minor variations, but, speaking generally, they appear to be conducted on the same lines as those upon which the libraries for elementary schools in Croydon have been organized. Books are sent out from the library to the schools and returned at intervals. At Buffalo Public Library there is a teachers' room, containing one copy of every work in the school libraries, as well as some special works for teachers. The object is to enable any teacher to choose the books he wants to supplement the collection sent to his school. The large supply of duplicates which their funds permit them to buy enable them to meet these special requisitions.

8.—An important feature of the Buffalo school work—the same thing is also done at Newark—is the collecting of pictures. These pictures are cut from old magazines, worn-out books, and any other available source, mounted on manilla mounts, classified, and stored in cupboards. From this collection sets of pictures are made up on any subject which is being studied in the schools, and sent out as required. A teacher engaged in teaching the geography of China, for example, will either call at the library and choose the pictures he needs, or

ask for the set on this subject. This work seems valuable and well worth doing.

9.—At Newark a scheme of High School visits to the Lending department to teach the pupils the use of the classification, the catalogue, etc., has just been inaugurated. The Lending Librarian has prepared a demonstration lasting about an hour, in which the children are shown the card catalogues; the plans upon which they are compiled and methods of consultation are explained; the arrangement of books on the shelves is also dealt with; the children are then given some practical exercises, such as, What books has the library by a certain author?—on a certain topic?—Find the books on a certain topic, etc. At the time of my visit the lesson had been given to the teachers only, the hope being expressed that later the teachers themselves would give the lesson. Anything better calculated to promote the intelligent use of the library could hardly be imagined, and the exercises will amuse as well as instruct pupils. Obviously it is only at libraries having systematic shelf classification, and access to the books, that such object lessons with the library itself as object are feasible. At Croydon, as at Newark, we have both, and I think that something on the lines of the Newark experiment should be tried.

10.—I will close this report, purposely made brief, on one of the most important phases of American library activity with a perhaps necessary foot-note: the Public Libraries of America have very much larger incomes than those in Great Britain, buildings are usually much larger, the equipment is of the very best, and staffs are much larger than ours and more highly trained.



## LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

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### VI. ANNOTATIONS.

23. We do not undertake to flout all preconceived notions of annotations in this chapter. In keeping with the chapters preceding, we shall endeavour to lay down a few rules by which those who wish to make their serial catalogue more effective may be helped towards that end. We, therefore, adopt the point of view which seems to us most acceptable, and shall proceed to a consideration of the most important classes of literature, giving the points desirable to be noted.

24. First, then, for the point of view. Stated briefly it is this: Annotation deals with matters of fact, not with matters of opinion: the true function of the annotator is elucidation. From these premises we draw the inference that criticism, either direct or implied, is inadmissible.

25. But in laying down this rule, the part that the review plays in annotative work must be remembered. As we have practically no other means of selecting modern works than the reviews which appear in the literary and special journals, so it will be found that, biased and untrustworthy as it often is, if used with due discretion the review may be explanatory and helpful. It is the practice, in libraries where much annotation is done, to mark reviews when recommending books for purchase. The titles marked are copied on to slips and the number and page of the review is added to each. When the book is obtained and the annotation comes to be written, the review is consulted. The notice found will often be merely an agglomeration of epithets, eulogistic or defamatory; but often the basis, method or argument of the book is well described. In this case the reviewer's opinions may be ignored and his elucidation used. Whenever an expression of opinion is taken from a review the name of the review should be added. This enables the intelligent reader to estimate the note at its worth; it is the anonymous opinionative note that is misleading. One word of warning is necessary. Often reviews are built up of long extracts from the prefaces of the books, and to quote these is merely to repeat quotations. Generally speaking, a much better note can be written after a brief examination of the book itself than from any number of reviews.

26. It will nearly always be found that a book belongs to one of seven well-defined categories. It is:

A work in a hitherto untraversed field.

A work of original research supplementing or extending some previous authority.

A restatement of a subject without originality in point of facts.

A work written in opposition to, or to controvert some previous work.

A compilation, or outline, from other books.

A work of imagination.

A book falling in one or more of the foregoing categories which has been edited.

All these points should be sought for. And here we begin to see the difficulties of first rate annotation. If it does not imply a knowledge of every subject, it still implies the ability to realize the relation of any part of a subject to its whole. No department of our work so soon and so mercilessly reveals the educational limitations of the worker as does annotation. This must always be the prime objection to annotation. Time and expense are great obstacles, but the greatest is that very few libraries can pay a staff of sufficiently high ability to indulge in the best annotative work. Still, for all this, Mr Savage\* has recently shown how the whole of a very ordinary staff may be utilised in this work, and though his method suggests rigidity and machine-made notes, it has practical point. And much of annotation is merely a matter of accurate method.

\* *Library World*, June, 1905. Mr. Savage includes in the same article a list of the principal reference books necessary to the annotator. This is well worth study, as in fact, is the whole of that suggestive article. We may add that our chapter was planned, and partly written, before the appearance of Mr. Savage's article.

27. The approach to any book should be in this order of enquiry :

a. What are the author's qualifications in relation to his subject ;  
*e.g.*,

**Caird, Edward.** Evolution of Theology in the Greek Philosophers.

The author is Master of Balliol, and was formerly Professor of Moral Philosophy in Glasgow University.

b. What is the author's method or argument. The word argument includes the subject matter, and is used in the sense in which we speak of the argument of a poem or play ; *e.g.*, for the same book :

An account of those ideas of Greek philosophy which have most powerfully affected the subsequent development of theological thought. Confined to the most important writers, to Plato and Aristotle, to the Stoic philosophers, and to Philo and Plotinus. Does not deal with secondary variations of opinion among the less important writers of the various schools. Considers at length the development of the Platonic philosophy in its logical and ethical as well as in its metaphysical and theological aspects.

c. The object or *raison d'être* of the book ; *e.g.*, for the same book :

To contrast the dualism of Greek philosophy in its highest expressions with the view common to Christianity.

d. The period of the book and its position in the history of the subject ; *e.g.*,

**Wallace, A. R.** Darwinism.

A popular restatement of the theory of natural selection embracing later researches than Darwin's own works.

28. There are other preliminary considerations ; for example, whether the book is popular, for the general reader, or technical. Indicate what preliminary knowledge is required, *e.g.*,

**Jevons, W. S.** Principles of Science.

Presumes a knowledge of algebraic formulæ.

Indicate any special class of readers to which a book is addressed, *e.g.*,  
**Boyle, M. E.** Preparation of the Child for Science.

Addressed to parents and teachers.

29. Bearing the foregoing axioms in mind we will now consider particular classes of books. Our difficulty is to procure examples for each point. Those given then must be taken merely as typical applications of the principles suggested.

30. *General Works.*—The miscellaneous character of works under this head makes precise rules impossible. The works here are generally of an encyclopædic, quick reference, or periodical character. Note : If the work be in dictionary or classified form ; if by one or by a co-operation of authors ; features peculiar itself, and not found in works of a like character ; similarly, its omissions.

31. *Philosophy.*—This is also a difficult heading, and subdivides into History, Theory and Criticism. Note : The school of thought to which the author belongs ; his deviations from that school.

**Haldane, R. B.** The Pathway to Reality.

The author is a disciple of Aristotle and Hæckel.

Whether or not the work is founded on new observations of phenomena; has any new or newly conceived theory; whether inductive or deductive or both; if it supersedes or supplements another work or works; preliminary or advanced, *e.g.*,

**Drummond, W. B.** The Child: His Nature and Nurture.

Introductory. May be considered a preliminary to Sully's "Studies of Childhood," and Perez's "First Three Years of Childhood."

If critical, refer to the writer or school described; indicate positions attacked; note whether it is constructive adding where it attempts to destroy; *e.g.*,

**Taylor, A. E.** The Problem of Conduct: the Phenomenology of Ethics.

Chapter 3 is directed against the doctrines of the earlier chapters of Green's "Prolegomena of Ethics." Submits that ethics constitute a purely positive science, having no dependence on metaphysics.

32. *Religion*.—Indicate the point of view where the work treats of the subject generally, *e.g.*,

**Jastrow, Morris.** The Study of Religion.

Discusses religion historically; and from the standpoint of ethics, philosophy, mythology, psychology, history and culture.

Where more special, indicate whether Christian, non-Christian, or one of the Oriental religions, or Agnostic, Atheistic, etc. Also note the variations of each; *e.g.*,

**Picton, J. A.** The Religion of the Universe.

A study in a type of pantheism, not of any historic thinker—of Spinoza for example, or Hegel—which has been arrived at on the lines of Christian rather than purely philosophical traditions.

**Fiske, John.** Life Everlasting.

The evolutionary argument for immortality.

**Greg, W. R.** The Creed of Christendom.

From the philosophical point of view. Attacks the inspiration of scripture, declares the Gospels are not textually faithful, and that the disciples only imperfectly understood Jesus.

As under *philosophy*, indicate whether the work is historical, theoretical or critical; if elementary or technical; if pastoral, devotional or controversial, *e.g.*,

**Guinness, H. G.** The City of the Seven Hills.

Denunciatory of Roman Catholicism.

33. *Sociology*.—Note: If the book is historical or comparative; of original research; points of emphasis; school; cognate works.

**Demoor, Jean, and Others.** Evolution by Atrophy in Biology and Sociology.

A comparative application of the laws of evolution as affecting animal and vegetable organisms to social organisms.

**Pearson, Karl.** National Life from the Standpoint of Science.

From the standpoints of heredity and natural selection.

Note the political standing of any work dealing with party problems, and briefly indicate any political problem discussed when this is not clear from the title.

(To be continued.)

## THE IMPRESSIONS OF AN OUTSIDER.

By S. T. EWART.

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### THE LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

**A**N unbiased impression of any professional subject is admittedly a thing most difficult to obtain. This is but natural: for those persons engaged in the profession are necessarily biased in favour of certain ideas, and those outside do not know enough to care about their impressions. In the following notes I have tried to put myself into the position of a person knowing about the profession but not of it, by this means hoping to obtain unprejudiced views. I may add that I am not a member of the Library Assistants' Association.

The first thing that struck me when investigating the general feeling towards the Association was that many librarians take the Library Assistants' Association and its journal much more seriously than do the assistants themselves. This manifestly is not as it should be; and the reason is not far to seek. The prevailing conception of the Association among non-members is that is a sort of impotent trade union formed for some hazy, ill-defined end. Not only is this the conception of non-members, but I was sorry to discover that it was by no means absent among the members. The consequence of this is that most assistants adopt an apologetic attitude when speaking of their Association; and a still further consequence of this apologetic attitude is that, when the name of the Association is mentioned, there is a general titter, as there was at a Library Association meeting a few weeks ago. It is time that assistants gave up apologising for their Association, and the sooner the idea that it is simply a co-operative means of howling about open doors and other such nonsensical grievances is given up also, the better it will be for everyone concerned. The Library Assistants' Association is in no sense a trade union: it is a means of promoting social relations between assistants, thus establishing that *esprit de corps* so essential to the welfare of the profession; of supplying facilities for the interchange of ideas on professional topics; and, to a certain degree, of enabling the assistant to educate himself in the details of his profession.

Now, in order that it may do these things to the fullest advantage, it is necessary that the Association should be supported by every assistant who can possibly do so. Whether he lives in London or in the provinces, whether he can attend the meetings or can not, he should support the Association by becoming a member. Once this general support is accorded, it follows as a necessary consequence that by virtue of greater financial and moral backing much more could be done. Thus the provincial assistant could benefit, even if unable to attend the meetings in London. Up to the present, this fact has not been sufficiently recognised, and the result is that the Association is very local, and not at all representative. In fact, it must be admitted

that it is a London body rather than an English one. Even in London it is not properly supported. Of course it has its detractors, but why are those detractors not members? If in their opinion the Association is not managed as it should be, surely their obvious course is to join and reform it. In the near future I hope to see the Association properly supported, with branches affording convenient meeting-places for assistants in all parts of the country.

Lately there has been some discussion as to the advisability of affiliation with the Library Association. That there should be any doubt as to the wisdom of such a course seems almost ludicrous. "Affiliated to" does not mean "under the thumb of," though many seem to think it does. The enormously increased moral power that would result from affiliation is by no means to be despised. The only impediment in the way of this desirable course is a somewhat incomprehensible antagonism between the Associations.

The name "Library Assistants' Association" is anything but an attractive one. I am told that several members suggested a change some years ago, and I see from a file of the *Library Assistant* that a writer revived it in February. The present title sounds cheap and nasty, and is suggestive of back-room meetings in Bermondsey. A much more suitable title would be the one suggested: "Society of Assistant Librarians." This impression may seem a very superficial one. It is superficial; but as it is by exterior features alone that non-members judge, it is by no means unimportant.

Another feature, both external and internal, and perhaps the most important of all, is the journal, *The Library Assistant*. A large proportion of the members cannot attend the meetings, and all they receive for their subscriptions is the journal. It is, therefore, of the utmost consequence that the journal should be of some use to them, besides being thoroughly representative of the activities of the Association. Notwithstanding a striking improvement recently, the *Library Assistant* is still far from being an ideal organ. Here again the reason is not difficult to find. Why is there not an editor who has power to do what he thinks necessary for the betterment of his charge? It does not matter how good the editor may be—and I do not think the present one could be bettered—if he is governed by a committee he is practically powerless. If there must be a committee, why make it so large? The existing one is, I understand, much smaller than previous ones, but even now it is too large.

Then an impression or two on the contents of the magazine. Articles by librarians are no doubt very valuable, but there are other journals devoted more especially to them. The *Assistant*, on the other hand, is the only one devoted to assistants, and as such should encourage assistants rather than others to contribute. Then there should be a monthly editorial survey of library progress from the assistants' point of view. Again, the news columns need considerable revision. General library news is already covered by at least two magazines having much greater facilities for obtaining it. Why then waste valuable space by reprinting such news? Nothing that is not



of some practical use to assistants should be admitted. Thus, notes of new libraries, adoptions of Acts, and such-like information is of value to the assistant with eyes in his head, enabling him to forecast possible vacancies. Notes containing the extremely interesting fact that Mrs. Blogg, of Little Bunkum, has presented several art flower-pots and her father's collection of sermons to the local library are better omitted. Neither is it necessary to give several pages to reports of speeches made at opening ceremonies, even if the speeches be by Lord Rosebery or John Morley. On the other hand, why has the department devoted to appointments vacant been dropped? It is not necessary for the various local authorities to send in particulars; such information should be sought for and printed. I have not the slightest doubt that the editor, Mr. Rivers, agrees with me in the main, and that if he continues in his position, and gets rid of his committee, he will make the alterations.

Now for my impressions of the the monthly meetings—the outward and visible sign of the activities of the Association—of which I attended several in the course of my investigations. First of all, the name of the Association is the Library *Assistant's* Association. This being so, why, oh! why is it not made an assistant's association in reality as well as in name? An analysis of the programmes of monthly meetings reveals the following state of affairs. There are, perhaps, one or two papers from men like Messrs. Sidney Lee or Sidney Webb, a great number from librarians, and, as if by accident or to fill up, a faint sprinkling from the assistants themselves. This has arisen from a mistaken idea that by getting a man like Mr. Webb or Mr. Lee to read a paper, a good advertisement for the Association is gained. The only advantage accruing from such meetings is the somewhat doubtful one of having the name of the association dropped in as a tag to the name of the lecturer, in a few daily newspapers. When such a man, or any librarian, reads a paper, the members look wise, listen to the paper, and—go home. Discussions, in which there is more practical value than in most papers, is stifled. What assistant would get up and criticise Mr. Sidney Lee? and most would find it good policy to refrain from criticising librarians. Now, if papers were obtained from assistants—and this is *not* a difficult matter—there would invariably be a good discussion. Assistants are always ready to criticise one another, so that instead of the discussion at every meeting being confined to a diminutive group of members, it would be general. This would act as a better advertisement than anything else, for members would be sure to talk to non-members about the meetings. A good idea would be to get two assistants to read *pro* and *con* papers on the same subject. This would be certain to provoke a brisk debate.

At a recent meeting of the Library Association, a member elegantly remarked that librarians were a set of "dull dogs." As librarians are developed assistants, this is hardly to be wondered at. A more melancholy spectacle than a meeting of library assistants would be difficult to find. The sense of humour seems to be entirely absent, and the members wander about gravely discussing the relative virtues

of vegetable-glue and seccotine for sticking on tags, or comparing notes on the eviction of black-listers from the news-room. And all so seriously! It is quite possible to give any amount of enthusiasm to library work without wearing a funereal expression; such a mien is neither Byronic nor suitable. A person blundering into one of the meetings would carry away an impression of a "fatal night" meeting of a suicide club.

This leads me to my final and summing-up impression: more members, more money, more well-directed enthusiasm, and last, but not least, more of the saving quality of humour, and that there is not the slightest doubt that the Library Assistants' Association will go a long way.

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*Note.*—Since the above was written, a very near approach has been made to the suggestion for *pro* and *con* meetings. This was on the occasion of the meeting when Mr. Roebuck, of Stepney, read a paper in favour of newsrooms, and Mr. Sayers, of Croydon, opposed him. The result was one of the most successful discussions in the history of the Association.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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ANNOTATION is again to the fore as a subject for discussion and Mr. E. A. Baker amplifies his familiar opinions in the June *Library Association Record*. He confines his attention chiefly to the question of systematic Guides, "the object of which is to give information by means of descriptive notes as to the subjects of books, their scope, manner of treatment, and suitability for the purpose of the various classes of readers." He says: "annotative cataloguing and the compilation of bulletins are no doubt an interesting subject to librarians; but they do not concern us [The Library Association] much as an Association. It is extremely desirable that we should distinguish between those uses of annotation that are of general interest to us as an organized body, with the power and means to put them in practice, at least within certain limits, and those that interest individual librarians only." Starting from this standpoint, he advocates "the production of a series of guides, to assist the readers at all libraries, the librarians themselves, and the general body of readers in libraries or elsewhere." As regards actual practical annotation he has little to say, a large portion of the paper being occupied by criticism of other ideas on annotative work. In support of evaluation, he says: "It would be well to drop the word criticism, which may indeed be used with perfect propriety to denote the drawing of distinctions, or judging between, but is too closely associated with the judicial functions of the reviewer. Our

notes are not intended to be miniature reviews. The words appraisal, comparative estimate, evaluation, are less objectionable. Such annotation as this does not aim at absolute estimates, but at purely relative evaluation, subordinated to a definite purpose. It has a practical object, not a judicial one; not to pass sentences in the realm of intellect and art, but to help someone who is in want of instruction to discover the book that is best for him. There are so many books dealing with the same subjects, on similar lines, and with the same scope: which can we recommend? By including a book in your guide, you are taking the first step in appraisal; for after all appraisal simply means selection, and again selection. It is emphasized in the American *Principles of Book Annotation*, that the foundation of a reader's note should be analysis; on the other hand, evaluation cannot be dispensed with in the librarian's note, since it is to serve as a guide in the acquisition of books. It is further said that an attempt to combine the objects of the two is likely to result in a note that is appropriate to neither. But we can hardly hope for such luxuries as readers' guides and librarians' guides as well. In practice, some effort will have to be made to make a judicious admixture of the two, as is done for example in the *Bibliography of American History*, where the notes are very full and elaborate." The first portion of Mr. Basil Anderton's paper on "The Struggle for a Public Library in Newcastle-upon-Tyne" is also included in the number.

In the June *Library Journal*, Mr. Charles Martel explains at length why common nouns in German need not be capitalized. Although chiefly an explanation of the practice of the Library of Congress, the subject is treated generally, and a number of quotations and examples are given in support. The days when the library books will arrive at each house with the morning milk are foreshadowed by Miss G. E. Forrest in a paper on "House to House Delivery of Books." She describes the methods in use at various American libraries, and seems to be in favour of the development. "House to house delivery of books is still experimental, and a method difficult to adjust, especially in the matter of expense. In spite of these obstacles, the library of the future will no doubt consider house to house delivery as much a part of its regular routine as many of our present devices, which to the library of one hundred years ago seemed little less than impossible." Many arrangements for this delivery are in use. One of the most practical is as follows: "The library has persuaded some high school boy to undertake the delivery, he being paid for the service directly by the subscribers. One dollar pays for deliveries for twelve weeks, and includes books for all the members in the household of the subscriber. The messenger pays his own expenses for buggy fare, etc. The library takes the applications which are made to the messenger, hunts up the books, and charges them to the borrower. They are then delivered to the messenger, who is responsible for the books from the time he receives them. Theoretically, the case is the same as when a borrower sends a servant with an application for a book; but practically, the library has supervised the work to a certain degree, and

it has been under the auspices of the library. The library has therefore required the messenger to submit for approval notices which he proposed to have printed in the papers about the service. The messenger cleared from \$1.50 to \$2 per week above his expenses, and it took him on an average a little more than a long half day weekly. The library has allowed the messenger to take with him on his rounds a travelling library of twenty or thirty volumes from which the borrower could select in case he were disappointed in the book which he had applied for. Books which were picked up to be returned to the library were also available if another borrower wished to draw them." This scheme, which is in use at Springfield, has been very successful.

"The Library Militant" is the subject upon which Mr. H. L. Koopman discourses in the July *Public Libraries*. He compares a well organized library to an army, where all new comers or recent additions are looked down upon as "raw recruits," and are not admitted to full equality with the rest until proved by use. On the other hand, the library which subordinates value to newness in books he compares to a coral island where only the most recent part is alive, and the rest an inert dead lump. "The militant conception of the library means, therefore, that when a book has been placed upon the library shelves it is not forgotten, but so long as it has life in it, will be subject to service, and will be called upon." He also emphasizes the need for advertising the library. The library has been dumped down among thousands of enterprises, mercantile, social, dramatic, literary, religious, and consequently must do something to keep in the fore. What might be considered a continuation to this paper is "Library Advertising," by Mr. G. F. Bowerman. He reiterates the contention that it is not degrading but absolutely necessary to advertize, and mentions some of the principal methods. Miss Anna G. Rockwell tells of "Ruts and How to Avoid Them." Mr. C. R. Woodruff describes education through free lectures. He outlines the work already done in this direction, and his conclusion is that "with adequate and appropriate provision for meeting places alike for free discussions and public instruction, with the public school and the public libraries developed into effective civic centres, with free lectures wisely planned and coordinated, we need have no fear for the maintenance and growth of democratic education and self-government, and for the elevation of our civic life to higher levels of efficiency and usefulness, dignity and purity." Miss May G. Quigley notes some of the points to be observed in telling stories to children.

The July *Library Assistant* contains a third paper on the "Printers of England," by Mr. F. J. P. Burgoyne, dealing with Reginald Wolfe. Mr. T. W. Glazier re-tells an oft-told tale in a paper entitled "The Public Library, the State, and the People."

The most interesting paper in the latest *Folkbiblioteksbladet* describes a proposal before the Riksdag at Stockholm to make an annual grant of 60,000 kronor for the upkeep of Public Libraries, and an additional grant of 5,000 kronor for the inspection of libraries. It is also suggested that libraries shall be under the church authorities

instead of under the local authorities. Among other articles, there is a description of the Sundsvalls State Library.

The June *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* examines the local library legislation, and furnishes a very useful list of inexpensive editions of children's books.

A most interesting new bibliographical magazine has been established in London as a medium of intercommunication for bibliographers and a record of Notes and Queries. It is entitled *The Bibliographical Register*, and the first number for the summer of 1905 lies before us. It is published quarterly at 6d. a copy, or 2s. 2d. per annum post free, and is supplied by Messrs. Williams & Norgate. We understand that Mr. R. A. Peddie is the editor, and we congratulate him upon the appearance, contents and interest of his first number. It contains the first instalment of a hitherto unprinted letter by Henry Bradshaw on "Printing in the Irish character," a number of notes and queries relating to printers, and some miscellaneous matter of bibliographical interest. A periodical devoted exclusively to bibliography in its stricter sense has long been wanted in England, and we trust libraries and librarians of all kinds will support the undertaking, and so place it on the same firm footing as some of the Continental bibliographical magazines.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

**Barnes.**—Though Dr. Carnegie's offer has been officially declined by the District Council, much discussion is still being carried on upon the question. Writing to the *Richmond Herald* a correspondent states :

"At present in Barnes we have nothing but churches, chapels, and public houses, and Mortlake is not much better off. The total population is 25,000. Surely we need something more than the above trinity."

**Bath.**—Dr. Carnegie's offer of £13,000 for a Public Library has not yet been accepted by the Town Council, but a hearty vote of thanks was passed unanimously, and the matter is to be further considered.

**Blackpool.**—In reference to the note in our last issue that this town claimed to be the first to adopt the system of Municipal Libraries for School Children, we have received an energetic disclaimer from Mr. Hill, the librarian, who states that, on the contrary, it was the success of school libraries in other towns that induced the library committee to adopt them for Blackpool. The statement was made by us on the authority of a source which we considered reliable.

**Branksome.**—The chairman at a recent meeting of the Public Library Committee suggested the formation of a local museum as an adjunct to the library.

**Cardiff.**—Mr. Ballinger is likely soon to have in his care also the collection of books and MSS. which belonged to the late "Dafydd Morganwg," it having been bought by Sir W. T. Lewis for presentation to the Public Library. The collection includes many Welsh books of early date and an excellent selection of modern Welsh works.

**Cardiff: Canton.**—The new branch library at Canton has just been enriched by the munificence of Mr. Carslake Thompson and Mr. Herbert M. Thompson, who have presented £600 for the purchase of books, so as to form an adequate lending library when the building is ready to receive it.

**Cardiff: Cathays.**—From an illustration of Messrs. Speir & Beavan's design for the Public Library (a branch of the Central) we judge that Cathays will be in possession of a striking building with accommodation suitable to the locality. We notice the children are provided with a reading room to themselves.

**Chapel-en-le-Frith.**—The acceptance of Dr. Carnegie's offer to provide this hill-town of Derbyshire with a Public Library is meeting much opposition in the Council. The only existing library in the town is that in the Public Institute which is available only to its members.

**Chelmsford.**—It has been decided to adopt the open access system in the new Public Library.

**Dudley.**—The new catalogue of books in the Public Library, compiled by Miss E. J. Southall, the librarian, is now in use. By the preface we learn that whereas in 1900 the borrowers numbered 2,681, now 6,010 are registered.

**Enfield.**—The Public Library Committee have determined to collect prints, photographs, original drawings, newspaper cuttings, maps, plans, and MSS, of everything that concerns Enfield and notable persons connected with it; also pamphlets relating to Enfield and written by Enfield people.

**Hounslow.**—The Sunday opening of the Public Library commenced last month, 2.30 till 9.0 p.m. being the hours. At present from sixty to seventy persons avail themselves of the opportunity.

**Huddersfield: Almondbury.**—Busy Huddersfield has spread till the ancient village of Almondbury has been merged in the borough, and now a Public Library is being erected for the district. Sir John Ramsden has granted a 999 years lease of the site at a pepper-corn rent, and Dr. Carnegie gives £1,500 to the building fund.

**Kendal.**—Kendal has followed Battersea's lead, and abolished guarantee forms except for children. A large number of local books, maps, prints, etc., have recently been presented by various donors to

the library, and the committee are making strenuous efforts to add to the local collection. The Library Committee are working in connection with the County Education Committee, and now despatch boxes of books to any of the county schools, the cost of the effort working out at about one penny per year per scholar.

**Llanelly.**—Mr. J. Boulton, librarian, reported to a recent meeting of the Library Committee the further gifts of Sir Arthur Stepney. This time the donation is of 84 books, many of which are rare and some of much value.

**London: Hammersmith.**—The new Public Library, erected and furnished at a total cost of nearly £15,000, was opened by the Duke of Argyll on July 24th.

**London: St. Pancras.**—Since our July notice appeared we have learnt of the Duke of Bedford's offer to give £500 towards the purchase of sites for the proposed Public Libraries.

**Loughborough.**—The *Nottingham Daily Press* published an illustration of the new Public Library, and portraits of Dr. Carnegie, Mr. Topping, and those connected with the creation of this admirable substitute for the old library on the Ashby road. Though of late inadequate to the requirements of the times, owing to the increase of population in the borough and district, the older building has served its purpose well for many years since its opening in 1886. The first librarian was Mr. Z. Moon, who resigned in 1892 to become librarian of the Leyton Public Library. Mr. G. Andrews succeeded, and well filled the office till his untimely death in 1903. Mr. Frank W. Topping was then appointed to the librarianship, and under his care the development has been rapid and continuous. Upon his shoulders has fallen the heavy responsibility of the removal of books from the old to the new library. The work in organizing the new arrangements has been onerous, and Mr. Topping has well earned the compliments paid to him by Mr. J. T. Judge, chairman of the committee.

**Madras.**—A scheme has been put forward by a syndicate to establish a Madras University Library in close conjunction with the Connemara Public Library. The latter has recently had added to it the Victoria Technical Institute Library, and this under the present scheme is destined to develop into a threefold institution, a general library, a technical library, and a University library. The scheme has been sanctioned by Government, and is expected to be given effect to at once. —*The Englishman.*

**Malvern.**—Miss Lucy, the librarian, announces the gift by Miss Lambert of over seventy volumes. In the list are many useful works suitable for the Public Library. Donations from other friends are also recorded, including many works in the French language.

**Maybole (N.B.)**—Mr. J. K. Hunter, of Ayr, is the architect of the new Public Library, to be erected at a cost of about £3,400. Dr. Carnegie gives the building.

**Middlesbrough.**—At the meeting of the Library Committee on July 17th, Mr. Baker Hudson, the librarian, reported that the accommodation for books was nearly exhausted, and in view of recent gifts it would be necessary to provide a room as large as the present one.

**Montrose.**—Mr. James Christison, the librarian, is busy gathering together books for the new Public Library, already open in part, but not to be formally opened till October, when it is hoped Dr. Carnegie will be present.

**North Walsham.**—Nelson's connection with the school here is the moving factor in Dr. Carnegie's offer to present a Public Library building, a resident having informed him that "if Waterloo was won on the playgrounds of Eton, so was Trafalgar on the playgrounds of the Paston Grammar School at North Walsham.

**Peterborough.**—In order to cover the deficit of nearly £400 on the new Public Library, power is sought to enable the authorities to sell the old Public Library.

**Rawtenstall.**—The Public Library in course of erection, mainly through Dr. Carnegie's generosity, will probably be opened at the end of the autumn.

**Rugby.**—The important addition to the Public Library being nearly complete, the *Rugby Advertiser* recently published a plan showing the large extension of the building erected in 1891. The increased accommodation will, speaking generally, be rather more than half as much as it was formerly, and it will be both a surprise and a pleasure to those who previously made use of the library to find so good a result has been achieved in the convenient arrangements of the various departments.

**Surbiton.**—The District Council have decided that the time is not opportune for increasing rates by the establishment of a Public Library, much though some inhabitants and members of the Council desire such an institution.

**Tamworth.**—The new Public Library, designed by Mr. E. R. Danford, of Northampton, is now opened, and seems likely "to fill a long-felt want" in Tamworth. The building seems admirably adapted to its purpose. The following are the dimensions:—Reading-room, 42 ft. 3 in. by 19 ft.; lending library, 31 ft. 9 in. by 19 ft.; reference library, 20 ft. 6 in. by 19 ft.; entrance hall, 19 ft. by 10 ft.; and librarian's room, 13 ft. 7 in. by 6 ft. 3 in.

**Tunstall.**—A proposal made at the meeting of the Public Library Committee, though not carried, deserves a line, as it offered a new solution of the betting news difficulty. As we understand the report, it is that Mr. H. Bayley proposed to have all the objectionable news blotted out of the general newspapers, but to provide a sporting paper on a separate stand. We are not sure that such a method, under proper restrictions, is unworthy of consideration.



**Wigan.**—Mr. H. T. Folkard, the librarian, has received a communication from the Mayor of Wigan, announcing that Dr. Carnegie will give £5,000 for the erection of the new branch Public Library at Pemberton. On the question of "Blacking out" or "Blocking out" of racing news in newspapers, Mr. H. J. Folkard has printed a *Summary of Returns* on the question from 138 municipal libraries. From this it appears that 24 were favourable to the excision of racing news; 44 were against; 6 had the question under consideration; and in 64 places it had not been raised. About 22 places actually obliterate racing news.

**Willesden: Kilburn.**—We notice that Mr. James A. Seymour, the librarian, has introduced a box in the Public Library, into which readers can put lists of "suggested books." The books suggested for purchase have nearly all been of a useful character.

**Wombwell.**—The foundation-stone of the new Public Library was laid on June 29th by the Rev. George Hadfield. Dr. Carnegie is contributing £3,000 towards the cost. Mr. H. L. Patterson, of Sheffield, is the architect.

**Woolwich.**—The librarian is forming a collection of local literature, prints, and so forth, and Mr. C. H. Grinling writes to the press inviting such gifts as will make the collection as complete as it can possibly be. Parish Magazines of the Woolwich churches of all denominations, MSS. pamphlets and papers are solicited.

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**Mr. Alexander Anderson**, the well-known Scottish poet, who won his laurels under the pseudonym of "Surfaceman," has been appointed Chief Librarian of Edinburgh University. He has been employed there for many years, and his promotion is a recognition of his worth and good service.

**Mr. Arthur E. Baker**, sub-librarian of the Public Library at Chester, has received the appointment of librarian of the new Public Library at Taunton.

**Mr. Wilfred Ernest Barnes**, librarian of the Manor House Library, Lewisham, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the Greenwich Public Libraries. He was trained in the Battersea and Lewisham Public Libraries, and was selected out of 112 candidates.

**Mr. F. W. Hunt**, librarian of the Devonport Public Library, died on July 1st, after a long and painful illness. He had been in the office for nearly thirteen years, and accomplished much useful work.

**Mr. Charles Gordon Steer** died at St. Ives, Cornwall, in June. He was librarian of the St. Ives Passmore Edwards Institute till failing health compelled him to resign. He is greatly missed in the little Cornish

town where his death, at the early age of thirty-eight, is much deplored.

**Mr. R. J. Noall** has recently been appointed librarian.

**Mr. Thomas P. Thompson**, of the Mere Hall Library, Bolton, has been appointed Chief Librarian of new Public Library at St-Anne's-on-the-Sea.

**Mr. F. E. Tyler**, Sub-Librarian of St. Bride Institute, has contributed an interesting article on "The Transformation of London" to *The Home Counties Magazine*.



## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Bacon** (Francis, *Baron Verulam*). Philosophical works. Reprinted from the texts and translations, with the notes and prefaces of Ellis and Spedding. Edited with an introduction by John M. Robertson. London: George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8¾", pp. xx. + 920. Price 5s.

*Contents*—Advancement of learning; Novum Organon; Parascene; De Dignitate et augmentis scientiarum; On Principles and origins; Description of the intellectual globe; Theory of the earth; The New Atlantis; Essays; Wisdom of the ancients; Apophthegms.

A compact and useful one-volume edition of Bacon's principal works, admirably adapted for popular libraries and general reading.

**Benson** (A. C.). Edward Fitzgerald. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 208. Price 2s. net.

A welcome addition to the English Men of Letters series, which gives in an agreeable form every fact about a much-discussed author, whose personality is at present frequently under notice. Mr. Benson gives an interesting account of Fitzgerald's own quiet life, his friends, the origin of the translation of Omar Khayyám, and a critical summary of his other writings.

**Biese** (Alfred). *The Development of the feeling for nature in the Middle Ages and modern times.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 376. Price 6s.

This careful and painstaking study in the æsthetics of literature is written in continuation of the author's work on the "Development of the feeling for nature among the Greeks and Romans. It forms a valuable handbook for the student of literature, because of its large selection of extracts and examples from many foreign authors.

**Emerson** (Ralph Waldo). *Works.* Vol. 5 — *Poems.* London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½". Price 2s.

This volume completes the five-volume edition of Emerson, edited for the York Library by Mr. George Sampson. It comprises all Emerson's poetical works issued between 1847 and 1876, and with its index, fitly completes a most convenient, cheap and useful edition of Emerson.

**Graveson** (William). *Hertford and its surroundings, with notes on the country of Charles Lamb and Izaak Walton. . . .* London: The Homeland Association, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. 152, *ill., map.* Price 1s. net.

Guide to Hertford, Ware, Amwell, Broxbourne, the Upper Lea Valley, Haileybury College, etc.

A useful addition to the Homeland Handbooks, especially of interest to Londoners.

**Hill** (J. G.), *ed.* *The Calvert Scientific exploring expedition.* (Australia, 1896.) London: G. Philip & Son, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 9", pp. viii. + 44, *maps.* Price 2s. [NO INDEX.]

Account of an expedition in 1896-7, under the command of L. A. Wells, to explore certain unsurveyed portions of Western Australia.

A further step in the direction of exploring the unknown regions of Australia.

**Hutton** (Laurence). *Talks in a library with Laurence Hutton, recorded by Isabel Moore.* New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xviii. + 458, *ports, ill.* Price 10s. 6d. net.

An autobiography of Laurence Hutton, the American author of "literary landmarks" of various towns in which are preserved sketches and stories relating to Dickens, Edwin Booth, Jefferson (the actor), Mary Anderson, William Black, Longfellow, and many others. It also contains three chapters on death-masks or plaster casts of celebrities, and many notices of recent literary and theatrical life.

This is a most fascinating work recording the life and friendships of a genial American who acted as a kind of Boswell to celebrities of all kind. His efforts in the cause of literary topography are well known, and this book of "Talks" is an indispensable supplement to his other works in the sphere of literary and artistic anecdote.

**Kingsley** (Charles). *The Heroes, or Greek fairy tales for my children.* London: Blackie & Son, Ltd. [1905]. 8°, 7½", pp. 208. Price 1s.

This reprint is an example of Messrs. Blackie's "School and Home Library," which comprises nearly 70 works of history, travel, biography, and fiction, selected for general reading from among the masterpieces of English literature. Many old favourites are included, and the books are substantially got up, and clearly printed on good paper, thus forming a very cheap and useful series.

**Latham** (Edward). Who was he? A concise dictionary of general biography. London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905]. 8°, 4", pp. 162. Price 1s.

A volume of Routledge's "Miniature Reference Library," containing about 4,800 brief facts about eminent men and women. Living celebrities are not included, but most of the first-class great men are represented by a few dates or facts. There are many misprints: Johnson for Johnston, Myttor for Mytton, &c. Saints are not noticed under their names, but collected at Saint—a very bad arrangement in a biographical work.

**Melven** (William). A Commercial gazetteer of the world. London: T. C. & E. C. Jack, 1905. 8°, 9½", pp. viii. + 342, *col. maps*. Price 7s. 6d. net.

Deals chiefly with the resources, productions, industries, tariffs, routes, populations of different countries and towns of the world.

A good, practical geographical dictionary restricted in its scope to the commercial facts connected with the places noted. Being selective, naturally a number of small places are omitted, but it seems rather inconsistent to find a petty village like Marazion, in Cornwall, noticed, while Langholm, in Scotland, an important centre of the woollen tweed manufacture, should be omitted. The book is, however, generally accurate and comprehensive, and should be useful for reference purposes.

**Moore** (Norman) and Stephen **Paget**. The Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London. Centenary, 1805-1905. Aberdeen University Press, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. x. + 339, *ports., ill.*

A consecutive history of this famous scientific society, from its foundation in 1805, tracing its proceedings and chief activities in its successive homes in Verulam Buildings, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Berners Street, and 20, Hanover Square—its present headquarters—so well known to many librarians. The volume includes a series of notices of the various presidents of the Society, and is illustrated, somewhat unhappily, by a number of badly drawn views of the rooms at Hanover Square. The chief interest of the book for librarians lies in its many references to Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, its late librarian and present secretary, who was for many years honorary secretary of the Library Association, which met at Hanover Square till 1905. Mr. MacAlister's many services to the Society are noticed with appreciation, and his "zeal, energy and ability" are described as "invaluable" to the later progress and success of the Society.

**Patmore** (Coventry). *The Angel in the house*. London: Geo. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. xiv. + 154. Price 1s. net.

A poem on domestic life and love, originally published in 1854-66.

A pretty reprint of Patmore's celebrated poem, daintily printed and bound, and attractive in appearance.

**Peterson** (Maude G.). *How to know wild fruits*. A guide to plants when not in flower by means of fruit and leaf. New York: Macmillan Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xlv. + 340, *ill.* Price 6s. 6d. net.

A guide to the identification of American wild fruits, fully indexed, illustrated and classified, with indexes of English and Latin names.

A useful and interesting manual for field botanists and teachers interested in nature study, clearly arranged, and with good illustrations by Mary E. Herbert.

**Swan** (H.). *In Praise of books, an encheiridion for the book-lover*. London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905]. 8°, 4", pp. iv. + 118. Price 1s. net.

A series of appreciations and notes on books selected from great authors, and arranged in alphabetical order of authors' names.

A handy little addition to Routledge's "Miniature Reference Library," which will save reference to Ireland's larger book, and is easier to carry about.

**Swift** (Jonathan). *The Journal to Stella, 1710-13*. Edited by Frederick Ryland. London: Geo. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. xvi. + 508. Price 2s. net.

A reprint in the York Library of the complete edition of Swift's "Journal," first published in 1897 as a volume of Bohn's "Standard Library." It contains the corrected text of all Swift's letters collated with the originals in the British Museum, and is thus the most perfect edition for a Public Library to possess.

**Young** (Arthur). *Travels in France during the years 1787, 1788, 1789*. Edited, with introduction, biographical sketch and notes by [Matilda] Betham-Edwards. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. lx. + 366, *map.* Price 2s. net.

A tour in France made with the object of observing the agriculture, social conditions, industries, politics, and resources of France at the end of the 18th century.

A handsome and neat reprint of Young's well-known work, forming another addition to the York Library.

**The Argus Municipal Guide, 1905-6**. A poll-book and a year-book combined. . . Edited by Arnold Wright. London: *London Argus* Office, 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. xx. + 504, *ports., arms.* Price 3s. 6d.

The sixth annual issue of this valuable year-book has been improved in several directions, and the information has been thoroughly revised and brought down to date. A complete list of the Lord Mayors of London has been added, as well as other similar lists, and with the election figures, names and addresses of municipal administrators and offices, it is a most useful tool for the municipal library.

**A Technological** and scientific dictionary. Edited by G. F. Goodchild and C. F. Tweney. Part 9. Price 1s.

This number of Messrs. Newnes' technological dictionary extends from "Petrole to Pyrazole," and in the course of a few more parts this excellent work will be completed.

**Notes.**—The price of Mr. Grattan Flood's *History of Irish Music*, which is now in its second edition, is 6s. net.

The Sound Leather Committee of the Library Association have finished their labours, the results of which will be embodied in a monograph entitled "*Leather for Libraries*," by E. W. Hulme, J. G. Parker, A. Seymour Jones, C. Davenport, and F. J. Williamson. This will be published in August by the Library Supply Co., at the price of 1s. 6d. net.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

THE Northumberland and Durham Association of Library Assistants held a meeting, on July 12th, in the Public Library, South Shields, under the chairmanship of Mr. Alfred Errington, South Shields. The members having been cordially welcomed by Mr. Ernest Bailey, Chief Librarian of South Shields, the following papers, in which the subjects were ably dealt with by their authors, were read:—"The objects and kinds of catalogues," by Mr. R. Burgess, (South Shields); "The Dictionary Catalogue," by Mr. R. M. Daniel, (South Shields); and "The Classified Catalogue," by Mr. James Ross, (Newcastle). The members were afterwards conducted through the Library.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

o o o

Sir,—A paragraph is going the round of the newspapers, in which it is suggested that the losses of books from the St. Martin-in-the-Fields Reference Library, were thefts from an "open access" lending library. The paragraph is evidently based upon the recent annual report of the Westminster Public Libraries, wherein these losses are described and where they are correctly shown to have been mainly the depredations of two foreigners, who figured in the London Police Courts not long ago in connection with the same series of thefts.

Properly "safe-guarded" there is little fear of loss through "open access" system.

Some time ago I corrected a similar misleading statement which was circulated in connection with this Institution and as no official contradiction seems to be forthcoming in connection with the library mentioned above, I think it is only fair that the public should be acquainted with the true facts from one who is genuinely intrusted in the welfare and development of our Public Libraries, but who has no "axe to grind."

H. TAPLEY SOPER,

*City Librarian, Exeter.*

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[To show the character of the paragraph complained about by Mr. Soper, we print a letter which appeared in the *Montrose Standard* of July 7th.]

## SERIOUS THEFTS FROM AN OPEN ACCESS LIBRARY.

Great Yarmouth, July 4th, 1905.

SIR.—It is reported by the *Evening Standard* of the 29th June, 1905, that no fewer than 320 volumes, valued at £152, have been stolen from the shelves in the St. Martin's Public Library, London, to which the readers have free access. It is now decided to close these shelves to the public, and to permit entrance to none but the officials in charge. In some quarters the arrangement of the shelves is blamed for these thefts at this and other libraries, but it is obvious that no ingenuity of arrangement or in practical supervision, can prevent theft by a smart youth who has access to the books. This should therefore serve as a warning to the Montrose Free Library, who have, I understand, adopted the open access system.

I am, &c.,

SAFE BIND, SAFE FIND.

## THE SECOND CAMBRIDGE MEETING OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1905.

o o o

THE twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Library Association was held for the second time at Cambridge, from August 21st to 25th, 1905, and proved to be well above the average for the variety and interest of its proceedings. No better or more appropriate meeting-place could well be conceived than this venerable old University town, with its countless literary and historical memories and lovely college buildings, set in a maze of gardens and lawns. The local authorities did everything to make the meeting a success, and an attendance of over 200 members proved that the place was well chosen. A peculiar fitness attached to the selection of the meeting-place this year, as it coincided with the Jubilee of the Cambridge Free Public Library and also that of Mr. John Pink, the librarian, who has long been a much-respected and esteemed member of the Association. His courtesy and kindness to everyone at the twenty-eighth meeting of the L.A., and in particular the trouble he expended, and the fatherly interest he bestowed on the younger members of the profession, will not soon be forgotten by those who profited by his attentions.

The attendance of members was very good, and, though many prominent library managers and librarians were absent, the balance was adjusted by the presence of many new members who attended for the first time. It is interesting to note that nearly one-half of those in attendance were non-professional or non-librarian members, a fact that rather disposes of the various laments uttered throughout the meeting that the Association was becoming more and more a mere society of librarians. As a matter of fact, the Association is made up of about 265 librarians of various kinds, and 316 institutions, councillors, and general members. If the institutions which join the Association choose to send their librarians as delegates instead of their chairmen or other lay representatives, surely such a fact is not to be used as an argument to show that there is a professional predominance in the Association. It is rather an argument in favour of sending non-professional delegates and allowing librarians to prove their interest in their profession by joining the Association at their own expense. Another point which rather weighs with us is that, in mere volume of eloquence—or shall we call it talking power?—the non-professional element is decidedly in the ascendant. It would be impossible for any librarian to utter such a clangorous torrent as was emitted by one councillor who had been fed from infancy on newspapers, or those other councillors who wasted their breath in protesting against innovations which were never proposed. The talking librarian may be, and indeed is, a bore; but the talking councillor, speaking usually under

Volume VIII. No. 87. September, 1905.



the joint influence of ignorance and mistaken sentiment, is even worse, because more dangerous. When an Association is working towards a great end, and striving to gain recognition for the BOOK as a vital factor in human life and progress, it does not seem to us a healthy sign to find members intruding class prejudice and petty local feeling into such questions as the composition of the Council and proportions of professional and lay membership.

Before giving our usual descriptive account of the proceedings, it may be as well to dispose of the other features of the Conference. Exhibitions were held in the Corn Exchange of Library Plans, the Best Books of 1904, Library Appliances, and Library Leathers specially tanned. The chief features of the plans shown were the number of buildings arranged for safe-guarded open access, and the more liberal provision of space for readers. The Glasgow plans were particularly interesting, and it was remarked by many that the accepted design for the new Mitchell Library building was in some respects much less successful than other designs displayed. The Best Books show was much smaller and less interesting than usual, and a pretty general desire was expressed for a list of the best books of a year published early in the year following, without an exhibition at all. One practical suggestion which we heard was to the effect that such lists should be published monthly in the *Record* from January onwards, and that at the annual meeting only expensive books, say over 10s. in price, should be exhibited. This seems to us a useful limitation for such an extensive exhibition. The show of sumach-tanned leathers was very large and excellent, and served as an interesting supplement to the information contained in *Leather for Libraries*, a book which was produced by the Sound Leather Committee of the L.A. Library appliances such as bookcases, indicators, periodical racks and holders, etc., were shown on several stands, and a number of bookbinders displayed an excellent series of specimens.

The proceedings were opened in the Guildhall on Tuesday, August 22nd, 1905, by Dr. Francis Jenkinson, Librarian of the University Library, Cambridge, who is president for the year. On his invitation, the Mayor of Cambridge (Councillor A. S. Campkin) welcomed the members and delegates on behalf of the town, and Dr. Alex. Hill, Master of Downing College, on the part of the University. The result of the election of council and officers for 1905-6, was declared as follows, and, as usual, we have added the figures of previous elections :—

#### ELECTION OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS.

##### PRESIDENT.

Dr. Francis Jenkinson.

	VICE-PRESIDENTS: <i>Elected.</i>	1905.	1904.	1903.
Francis T. Barrett, City Librarian, Glasgow	... ..	191	—	200
L. Inkster, Borough Librarian, Battersea	... ..	177	—	—
C. W. Sutton, City Librarian, Manchester	... ..	177	—	187
Sir W. H. Bailey, Salford	... ..	173	—	185
F. J. Burgoyne, Borough Librarian, Lambeth	... ..	163	—	—

	1905.	1904.	1903.
Jas. Duff Brown, Borough Librarian, Islington ... ..	160	—	144
Peter Cowell, City Librarian, Liverpool ... ..	154	—	164
E. W. Hulme, Librarian, Patent Office, London... ..	147	—	142
T. W. Lyster, Librarian, National Library of Ireland ...	147	—	188
J. Y. W. MacAlister, Roy. Med. and Chir. Soc., London	146	—	—
J. Potter Briscoe, City Librarian, Nottingham ... ..	135	—	159
A. Capel Shaw, City Librarian, Birmingham	} a tie	*116	119
W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, Plymouth			116

*Not Elected.*

Councillor H. Plummer, Manchester ... ..	101	—	139
Dr. Herbert Putnam, Library of Congress, Washington	98	—	—
Dr. Hew Morrison, City Librarian, Edinburgh ... ..	89	—	—

LONDON COUNCILLORS: *Elected.*

Franklin T. Barrett, Borough Librarian, Fulham ... ..	177	155	194
Henry Bond, Borough Librarian, Woolwich ... ..	171	150	170
W. E. Doubleday, Borough Librarian, Hampstead ... ..	168	149	188
T. Aldred, Borough Librarian, Southwark ... ..	159	135	168
Cyril Davenport, British Museum, London ... ..	150	127	142
Bernard Kettle, Guildhall Library, London ... ..	147	—	—
G. H. Palmer, South Kensington Art Library, London... ..	144	126	124
H. D. Roberts, late of Southwark Public Libraries ... ..	144	132	149
Cecil T. Davis, Borough Librarian, Wandsworth ... ..	136	124	138
W. C. Plant, Borough Librarian, Shoreditch ... ..	132	117	142
J. R. Boosé, Royal Colonial Institute ... ..	122	128	132
H. V. Hopwood, Patent Office Library ... ..	105	99	—

*Not Elected.*

F. E. Chennell, Willesden Public Libraries ... ..	92	—	—
W. G. Chambers, Woolwich Public Libraries ... ..	79	—	—
A. Cawthorne, Borough Librarian, Stepney ... ..	66	—	—

COUNTRY COUNCILLORS: *Elected.*

Basil Anderton, City Librarian, Newcastle ... ..	170	168	165
Councillor T. C. Abbott, Manchester ... ..	168	153	99
John Ballinger, Borough Librarian, Cardiff ... ..	168	157	181
R. K. Dent, Librarian, Aston Manor ... ..	166	147	161
E. A. Baker, Librarian, Wallasey ... ..	162	124	113
T. W. Hand, City Librarian, Leeds ... ..	159	146	166
Henry Guppy, Librarian John Rylands Library... ..	153	144	179
G. T. Shaw, Lyceum, Liverpool ... ..	151	140	153
Butler Wood, Borough Librarian, Bradford ... ..	149	139	138
John Minto, Borough Librarian, Brighton ... ..	147	—	—
W. Crowther, Borough Librarian, Derby ... ..	143	137	156
Benj. Carter, Borough Librarian, Kingston-on-Thames... ..	140	111	110
H. T. Folkard, Borough Librarian, Wigan ... ..	137	133	156
Alfred Lancaster, Borough Librarian, St. Helens ... ..	137	130	157
John Pink, Borough Librarian, Cambridge ... ..	134	—	—
J. P. Edmond, Librarian, Signet Library, Edinburgh ...	133	120	142
C. Madeley, Borough Librarian, Warrington ... ..	129	125	141
E. R. N. Mathews, City Librarian, Bristol ... ..	125	128	149
G. H. Elliott, City Librarian, Belfast ... ..	122	115	112
Alderman W. H. Brittain, Sheffield ... ..	120	111	122

*Not Elected.*

Fred. Turner, Librarian, Brentford... ..	105	—	—
E. A. Savage, Borough Librarian, Bromley (Kent) ... ..	91	—	—
Z. Moon, Librarian, Leyton ... ..	90	—	—
Baker Hudson, Borough Librarian, Middlesbrough ... ..	67	65	66

\* Determined by drawing lots in favour of Mr. W. H. K. Wright.

## HON. SECRETARY.

L. Stanley Jast, Borough Librarian, Croydon.

## HON. TREASURER.

Henry R. Tedder, The Athenæum, London.

## HON. SOLICITOR.

H. W. Fovargne, Town Clerk, Eastbourne.

The changes in this list are not many, but it is doubtless this particular result which has moved Mr. Ballinger and others to deplore the absence of the non-professional element on the Council. Counting the Past-Presidents, there are now ten non-librarian members of Council, which may be considered pretty well, considering the lack of interest which they displayed in the work of the Association, apart from the annual meetings.

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

After some preliminary remarks, Dr. Jenkinson continued as follows :—

“ I propose to say something of the collection of fifteenth century books in the University Library and what Bradshaw did for it. About the year 1860 it contained, according to a rough calculation I have recently made, about 830 different works, more or less. Some of these had been in the Library ever since the fifteenth century, as for instance the volumes of the *Speculum* of Vincent of Beauvais presented by Archbishop Rotherham and barbarously mutilated, probably in the sixteenth century. Among the latest acquisitions that I have noticed is one from the Heber collection, which may have been bought at the sale in 1834.

Stimulated by notable discoveries among the books already in the library, Bradshaw soon set to work. What the University could not afford to buy, he himself bought and presented ; and though forty years ago incunabula in general were cheaper than they are now, he must have spent very considerable sums in this way. I must mention one book which he did *not* secure at the Enschedé sale in 1867—the almost unique copy of the first book printed at Haarlem with a date (1483). It sold for about £54. Twenty-three years afterwards it was bought by Mr. Sandars at the sale of the Lakelands Library and presented, with other valuable books, to the University Library. Bradshaw went on picking up books from the catalogues of booksellers and from auctions, in London and on the Continent. He did not buy at random. Every book had its place and helped to illustrate some development or to fix some landmark : or else it furnished some problem which he intended to solve or try to solve. Of English incunabula we already possessed a more than respectable collection, thanks to the Bishop who collected them, and the King who presented them to the University. We were preeminent in Caxtons, though the British Museum and the John Rylands Library have left us behind. In this direction additions could hardly be made by purchase, though

prices were not such as we have lived to see. But the infancy of printing in England is more or less intimately connected with certain presses at Cologne and in the Low Countries; these presses accordingly possessed a special interest for Bradshaw, and being unable to cover the whole field he devoted his attention and his resources to that portion of it in which his special knowledge enabled him to operate most advantageously.

Already he was applying to early typography that natural history method which was so fruitful in his hands, and which Proctor and others have used after him with so much success. I have sometimes wondered whether there was anyone in particular from whom he derived this method of treating the subject. There may even be more than one. But I am tempted to lay before you one possibility which I should be glad to find some evidence to support.

The name of Alexander Henry Haliday is probably known to very few of you, especially as it has escaped the net of the *Dictionary of National Biography*. He was born in 1806 and died in 1870. At Trinity College, Dublin, he won the gold medal in classics. But entomology was the subject in which he mainly distinguished himself. I quote from a short notice of him contributed to the *Irish Naturalist* (September, 1902) by his friend Professor E. Perceval Wright. 'These memoirs . . . not only by the novelty and interest of the subject, but by the classic elegance of the style in which it was treated'—the memoirs were in Latin—'placed their author in the fore rank of entomologists': and Professor Westwood's opinion is quoted, that 'nothing has ever exceeded the clearness and precision of his general views, as well as his minute and elaborate details.' This is supplemented by Baron Osten Sacken's appreciation. 'He had an intense desire for completeness and perfection, which was quite disinterested, because shy of publicity; he had an intense desire of being useful, by imparting useful knowledge to others, unmindful of the amount of work it involved.' Might we not be reading a description of Bradshaw? It is probably a mere fancy; but I cannot help wondering whether the two men came across each other. Haliday was at Dublin all the time (1854-56) that Bradshaw was at St. Columba's College, overlooking Dublin Bay. Haliday was a native of county Down, where Bradshaw's father was born; and this would naturally have drawn them together. If they did meet, Haliday was evidently a man after Bradshaw's own heart, and intercourse with him was certain to intensify Bradshaw's instinct for the natural history method, as he himself calls it. Bradshaw speaks of Panzer as 'the one true naturalist among general bibliographers'; and he himself was a true naturalist, the subject (or one of the subjects) of his researches being the natural history of books.

Such naturalists Free Public Libraries should help to produce. 'Haurit aquam cribro qui discere vult sine libro' wrote some old scribbler on the margin of a fifteenth century dictionary. 'He who would learn without books might as well try to drink out of a sieve.' Young people grow up without ever encountering the books that might determine their careers and lead them to turn their natural propensities

to the best account ; or perhaps they come across them when the most receptive years of their lives are past. The works of the great naturalists and the lives of great students such as Henry Bradshaw should be obtruded on young readers in every library.

But to return to my story.

The result of Bradshaw's specialisation is clearly seen in the case of Holland. The University Library contains 307 books (including fragments) printed in Holland during the fifteenth century. The British Museum when Proctor compiled his Index contained 293, the Bodleian 146. These numbers have probably increased in the five years which have elapsed : while ours I fear are very nearly the same as they were in 1899. The British Museum and the Bodleian had 65 books in common : the Museum had 228 which were not in the Bodleian, and the Bodleian had 81 which were not in the Museum. But the University Library has 152 or 50 per cent. which were neither in the British Museum nor in the Bodleian.

I have not had time to make a similar computation for Belgium ; but the result would probably be much the same. And in some respects the interest and value of the collection is not shown by a numerical comparison. In *choice* books the Museum leaves us far behind : it has seven specimens of the magnificent printing of Colard Mansion at Bruges, while we and the Bodleian have to be content with one each. But of the early press at Alost, which stands at the head of Belgium presses, neither the Museum nor the Bodleian has a specimen, while the University Library has two.

In books printed at Cologne, of which Bradshaw made a special study, we do not make an equally good show numerically. The Museum has 594, the Bodleian 371, the University Library only about 338. But the proportion of books specially interesting for one reason or another is relatively larger in our collection ; so that it forms a useful supplement to the other two. That is as much as, in regard to early printed books generally, we can expect to do. The collection is on the one hand sufficient to enable a beginner to learn the method necessary for studying such books, after which he can pass on profitable to larger assemblages of them elsewhere. It is, on the other hand, so carefully selected that the advanced student of early typography coming here will almost certainly meet with something to reward him for his trouble. Mr. Proctor, in the last paper he ever wrote, a review of Dr Voulliéme's work on the early printers of Cologne, published in the *Library* for October 1903, cites as a remarkable fact, and one hardly to be paralleled elsewhere. that the four great English libraries, the British Museum, the Bodleian, the Cambridge University Library, and the John Rylands Library contain among them copies of every early quarto by Ulric Zell whose existence is certain, with two exceptions only. Thus, he says, English students are in an exceptionally good position with regard to these books.

Outside Cologne and the Low Countries, Bradshaw kept his eyes open for specially interesting books that came within his reach. He was a pioneer and a discriminating pioneer. Books with woodcuts had

a special attraction for him; and in those days woodcuts other than Italian, were not thought much of. I believe that Conway's *Woodcutters of the Netherlands*, which owed its arrangement largely to Bradshaw, has served us a model for many of the admirable monographs which have since appeared in Germany. Early bibles have fascinated many writers: by early bibles I mean specially those that were printed before the year 1470. They form a class by themselves of ancient monuments of the highest interest and beauty. Bradshaw knew them intimately, broke them into classes according to their different points of division into volumes, if they were divided at all; arranged them by rubricators' dates, as giving at least a prima facie order to start from; and in general, did much minute work upon them, the results of which were, I believe, communicated to this Association in 1885, but, as far as I know, they were never written down. These studies were begun early, never lost sight of even though for a time suspended, and resumed during the last few years of his life. His attention was soon drawn to the edition printed at Strassburg by John Mentelin, in 1460 and 1461 as the note of the rubricator shows, or at least not later.

The Mazarine Bible and the still rarer 36-line Bible were, of course, quite beyond the means at his disposal, although he managed to secure detached leaves of both, as well as of the famous Mainz Psalter. But of the Mentelin Bible he not only obtained an ordinary copy, complete though rather cut down, but also a specimen much more interesting and in its way, as far as I know, unique.

In February 1870 the late Mr. F. S. Ellis entrusted to Messrs Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge for sale a very extraordinary assemblage of early printed books, all or most of which formed part of the Culemann collection, which Mr. Ellis had bought. The cataloguing, for which Mr. Ellis afterwards told me with some contrition he was responsible, was done without sufficient knowledge, and attributions of books to particular printers were generally wrong. It is for this reason that Bradshaw's Classified List, derived from the sale catalogue, was never printed, as he only examined the books that specially concerned him. I may remark that sanguine cataloguers even then recognized the name of Ulric Zell, the first printer of Cologne, as a name to conure with. I have seen a book in Italian roman type assigned to him, and in this Culemann catalogue he is credited with an Augustine, printed at Geneva, in a very beautiful and uncommon type, which has no resemblance to anything used at Cologne.

It was at this sale that, among other unrecognized treasures, Bradshaw bought our second copy of the Mentelin Bible, Vol. 1, for the sum of £4 17s. 6d. It was noted in the catalogue that the first leaf was printed on one side, the reverse and folio 2 written in a contemporary hand; and it was sold therefore not subject to collation. But these were not the only peculiarities exhibited by this singular volume, which was in its original pigskin binding. Ordinary copies of the Bible are folios, that is to say, a sheet of hand-made paper was folded once across the middle and made two leaves or four pages. But this copy is

not strictly speaking a folio at all. Almost throughout it is printed on small sheets, capable only of containing one page on each side. It is, in fact, an assemblage of broadsides, pasted together by one margin and made into a book. They were probably proof-sheets, collected by someone connected with the printing-house. Bradshaw must have shown this volume to someone, and can hardly have failed to draw some conclusions from it as to the habits of the printer. But no record of any such conclusions has survived, as far as I know.

It was in Bradshaw's time, but not, I think, at his suggestion, that a copy of the Lactantius printed at Subiaco in 1465, and reputed to be the first book printed in Italy, was bought at a rather extravagant price.

His greatest achievement was at the Vergauwen Sale at Brussels, in 1884. He made the usual classified list, went over and examined every book for himself, and finally bought, says Dr Prothero, one hundred and forty fifteenth-century books at a cost of £551. Many of these were the actual copies described by Campbell in his so-called *Annals of Low Country Printing*.

The impetus given by Bradshaw lasted for some years after his death, although his special knowledge had ceased to direct it: and by the end of the century the collection amounted to 2,200 separate works, or nearly three times as many as there had been forty years before. Little is being done now, or can be done, to add to it. There are too many claims on our scanty funds; prices are higher, in fact often ridiculously high; and interesting fifteenth-century books seem to have become very scarce.

The times are unpropitious for collecting incunabula. Yet at the risk of seeming inconsistent, I wish to urge that every library should try to possess a few of them. In these days when printing, like the decorative arts, is so sadly and monotonously spiritless and mechanical, the sight of these early books, which show freedom and style in type-cutting and in ornamentation, substance and surface in the paper, and lustrous blackness in the ink, may help to remind people that books were not always what most of them are now. And for the bibliographer, whom it is one of the objects of the Association to encourage and to educate; where can he learn his work so well? The man who can collate an early book without signatures, with quires of varying size, cancels, and other obstacles to be surmounted, will think nothing of the structural difficulties of later books: whereas if he begins with later books, in which structural peculiarities are much less common, he is apt to overlook such things altogether when he comes across them."

#### THE CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

"After Fifty Years": a Retrospect of the Public Free Library, Cambridge, 1855-1905, by John Pink, was taken as read; but it has been separately printed, and forms an interesting record of the early literary societies and the Public Library movement in Cambridge.

#### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

A paper on the "Organization and Methods of the Cambridge University Library" was read by Mr. H. G. Aldis, M.A., Secretary of

the University Library, and dealt with the acquisition, preparation, and use of books, and other practical matters, such as the utility of the open shelf system.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Mr. H. R. Tedder presented the Report of the Committee on Public Education and Public Libraries, which contained the following recommendations :—

1. In order that children from an early age may become accustomed to the use of a collection of books, it is desirable (a) that special collections of children's books should be established in all Public Libraries, and (b) that collections of books should be formed in all elementary and secondary schools.
2. That the principal text-books and auxiliaries recommended by various teaching bodies, including those directing technical studies, as well as University Extension centres, the National Home Reading Union, etc., be provided, and kept up to date in the Public Library.
3. That the public librarian should keep in touch with the chief educational work in his area.
4. That conferences between teachers and librarians be held from time to time.
5. That there should be some interchange of representation between the Library and Education Committees.
6. That the Public Library should be recognized as forming part of the national educational machinery.

In submitting these resolutions, the Committee claimed that they were indicating the best and most practical lines on which co-operative work should proceed. They were conscious of the difficulty of considering more ambitious proposals till the library rate is either increased, or the present limitation removed, and for that reason strictly limited their suggestions to practicable schemes within the terms of their reference. On a general review of the whole situation, the Committee were convinced that the solution of most of the problems would be found in some practical realisation of their last resolution.

This report was supported by Dr. Alex. Hill, Master of Downing College, and after a full discussion was unanimously adopted by the Conference, with some slight additions relating to the provision of lecture-rooms in library buildings and collaboration with the National Home Reading Union.

On Wednesday, August 23rd, 1905, the first paper read was by Mr. Cyril Davenport, of the British Museum, on

BOOKBINDING AND BOOK PRODUCTION.

This took the form of a lantern lecture, and was delivered in the University Lecture-room of Anatomy and Physiology. Mr. Davenport



traced the forms of book coverings from very early times, and illustrated his remarks by a beautiful series of lantern slides which he had coloured himself. He treated his subject matter in a popular manner, and undoubtedly scored the success of the meeting as a lecturer. There can be no doubt that a good series of pictures is a very great aid to the clear exposition of any subject, and it would be advantageous in the future if the L.A. could introduce topics capable of being pictorially illustrated by means of the lantern. Following Mr. Davenport came Dr. J. Willis Clark, Registrar of the University of Cambridge, with a lantern lecture on the

#### EVOLUTION OF BOOKCASES,

which was a *résumé* of the researches and conclusions recorded in his *Care of Books*. This lecture was also intensely interesting, and Dr. Clark succeeded in giving a clearer and better idea to many of his audience of the evolution of the modern bookcase than ever they had before. In addition to a very fine series of slides, he exhibited exact models of the desk or lectern form of case, and its successor, the stall system, with its method of chaining books. These two lectures were perhaps the best appreciated and most largely attended of any during the whole Conference. Two practical papers on

#### LIBRARY BOOKBINDING

followed, the first by Mr. E. R. Norris Mathews, City Librarian, Bristol, on "Library Binderies," and the second by Mr. Cedric Chivers, Book-binder, Bath and New York, on "Library Bookbinding." Both were useful and practical, Mr. Mathews claiming that home binding was a complete success under the right conditions, and Mr. Chivers claiming that books bound and properly stitched when new had a longer and sweeter life than books first circulated in the publisher's cases and then re-bound. The discussion which followed dealt with most of the points raised by the authors, and Messrs. Barrett (Glasgow) and Hulme (Patent Office), who opened the debate, gave some useful information concerning home binding and repairing and the integrity of binding leathers. The discussion was adjourned with an understanding that it should be resumed again, but no opportunity occurred in the course of the meeting.

In the afternoon of Wednesday, August 23rd, 1905, a session was held to discuss

#### CO-OPERATION AND CENTRAL CATALOGUING,

but owing to the absence through illness of J. Y. W. MacAlister, only Co-operation was dealt with. This was opened by Mr. Inkster, of Battersea, in a thoughtful paper on "Library Grouping," which elicited a good discussion, initiated by Mr. Sutton, of Manchester, chiefly on the amalgamation of adjoining library authorities for the purpose of effecting improvements in administration. It was during this discussion that Mr. Wright, of Plymouth, in a somewhat warm speech of a very reactionary character, described the professional diplomas of the

L.A. as not worth the paper they were printed upon. This statement was received with quite a burst of ironical applause, which misled the press representatives into publishing the remark as of some weight. It was subsequently denounced by Mr. H. D. Roberts and others, and next morning the President gave the statement its *quietus* by announcing that it had been uttered in the heat of debate under a misapprehension. Mr. John Ballinger, Borough Librarian, Cardiff, followed with an excellent paper on "Library Politics," which advocated increased efficiency all round, the formation of district conferences to live up the whole library field, and the establishment of a definite programme, including the abolition of the rate limit, to be systematically and thoroughly pursued. The discussion was opened by Councillor T. C. Abbott, of Manchester, and the various speakers agreed that the only practical way of extending the work of the Association was to attract a much larger membership. Other matters were discussed, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Ballinger's vigorous and stimulating plea will have the effect of stirring up the members at large to increased activity and effort.

#### BUSINESS MEETING, August 23rd, 1905.

The passage of the Annual Report was accompanied by a series of volleys of "Agreed!!" "Agreed!!!" which sometimes embarrassed the President by coming before the paragraph under consideration was reached. This celerity did not prevent Mr. Ballinger, and others, from deploring the one-sided professionalism which was so strongly seen in the composition of the Council. But no one seemed able to suggest a fair solution of the difficulty, and it is probable that Mr. Ballinger's own proposal to have local conferences will dispel any feeling in the matter. It is entirely the fault of non-professional members that so few of their class are nominated and supported, but apart from this, it must always be remembered that delegates appointed by committees are constantly being changed, so that very little stability can be expected in such representation. A motion by Mr. Walter Powell, Sub-Librarian, Birmingham Public Libraries, to print all the papers of a Conference in one number of the *Record*, and to print discussions with the papers which gave rise to them, was moved by Mr. Arnold Burt, of Handsworth, in Mr. Powell's absence, and defeated after a lively debate. Some healthy criticism of the conduct of the *Record* was indulged in, but no one offered to undertake the task of contributing the necessary bright features so ardently desired. It is much easier to criticise a professional journal than to conduct one, and we can personally assure Mr. G. T. Shaw, and others, that no matter what lines are laid down for the arrangement and contents of a periodical like the *Record*, the difficulty of obtaining good contributions in sufficient numbers will always remain. An additional embarrassment is the character of the *Record* as the organ of a professional society, wherein jealousies and fears of all kinds abound, so that anything in the nature of antagonistic criticism, or lightness of touch, is almost certain to be strongly resented. We fear, therefore, that librarians, and others, will still have to look to

the *Library World* for their supply of independent criticism, coupled with an occasional happy indulgence in humour!

#### NEWSROOMS.

On Thursday, August 24th, 1905, an interesting discussion took place on the subject of Newspaper Limitation in Public Libraries, which was opened by Mr. C. W. Sutton, City Librarian, Manchester, who advocated the *status quo*, and by Mr. J. A. Charlton Deas, Borough Librarian, Sunderland, who spoke in favour of restricting this department of work. The title chosen for the papers—"Newsrooms: are they desirable?"—was most unfortunate, as it simply excited a feeling in the minds of a majority of those present that a proposal was being made for the abolition of reading-rooms entirely. This had the natural effect of completely misleading most of the speakers, who indulged in all sorts of hysterical protests against the suppression of reviews, weekly periodicals and other forms of literature, as well as daily newspapers. Mr. Sutton, in his opening remarks, when he took the place of Sir W. H. Bailey, distinctly limited himself to daily newspapers of the ordinary type, and so also did Mr. Deas, who described the limitation which had been introduced at Sunderland. The debate which followed was directed to the title chosen for the discussion, and not to the subject-matter provided by the introducers. The whole affair was therefore a sham, and had little bearing on the question of limiting newspapers in order to enable libraries to provide a better supply of high-class magazines. The general discussion was opened by Mr. Barrett, of Glasgow, who advocated the lavish provision of newspapers in order that provincials from every locality should have the pleasure of reading their home journals in every large town to which they had been expatriated. This is all very well in theory, but in practice it is impossible. Will Glasgow allow the man from John-o'-Groats and Land's End the same privileges as the man from Manchester, by providing copies of his favourite local journals? Of course it won't, and it is just this kind of limitation which renders newspaper provision such a difficult question. It is a very simple matter talking at large about the necessity of allowing citizens to see every variety and nationality of newspaper in order to keep them abreast of the times, but it is quite another affair to do this efficiently, and still provide an abundance of high-class magazines and reviews.

Daily newspapers are expensive compared to ordinary monthly magazines, and as they are consigned to the dustbin when out of date, it does not seem to be a wise thing to limit more substantial and enduring forms of periodical literature for the sake of providing an endless stream of ephemeral rubbish. A vote was taken on the question of newspaper limitation, but a large majority supported the doctrine of things as they are.

#### SUNDAY OPENING OF LIBRARIES.

The pros and cons of Sunday Opening were discussed by Mr. A. Capel Shaw, City Librarian, Birmingham, and Mr. H. D. Roberts, late of

Southwark. The former favoured Sunday opening, his preference being guided by the experience at Birmingham, while the latter thought it undesirable, because the results in many places did not seem to justify the course. The Conference wisely refrained from taking a vote on such a debatable question, on the advice of Bailie Shaw Maxwell, of Glasgow, who pointed out that the policy was one for local option. The result was therefore a draw, and we cannot help thinking that it would have been better had similar wisdom been shown in regard to the newspaper question. A general Association like this has no right to take sides on any controversial question.

#### LIBRARY PLANNING.

A joint Conference on Library Planning between the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Library Association was held as an afternoon session on Thursday, August 24th, when papers were read by Mr. Henry T. Hare, Vice-President R.I.B.A., and Mr. F. J. Burgoyne, Borough Librarian, Lambeth. Both papers were practical and intelligent expositions of a difficult theme, which will be found of permanent value when printed. Mr. Hare outlined his views of an ideal library building, which was in reality a kind of adoption of a cathedral plan for library purposes, but his views did not find ready acceptance. We have not yet reached that stage when we can consider the practicability of housing the whole of the departments of a library in one large room. Mr. Hare said: "Almost all Public Libraries were much too closely packed in their arrangement for the comfort, health, and free circulation of readers. In his opinion a 50 per cent. increase in floor space would not be at all extravagant. The same remark would apply to his second requirement, the sufficiency of light, air, and ventilation. Going on to refer to the arrangement of a library, the speaker said he entirely failed to see why magazines should be separated from newspapers, or why, assuming the floor space to be very ample, ladies and juveniles should require separate rooms. There was also an old fetish that no one room must be entered through another. He saw no reason why this should be taken as a general axiom. The only case in which he could conceive it to be necessary was that of a reference room, which was the only public room that really needed extreme quiet and retirement. These considerations had led him to conclude that probably the most satisfactory Public Library plan would be one in which practically the whole of the public accommodation was confined to one large room or hall. The fewer internal walls there were the better, the object being to obtain the maximum of airiness.

Mr. F. J. Burgoyne in his paper said he thought experience had proved that a separate room for women was quite unnecessary. The average woman preferred the company of a "mere man," and there was evidence that the presence of women in the reading-rooms was on the whole conducive to order and the better behaviour of the opposite sex. The provision of children's reading-rooms was now seen to be essential. Readers required to be caught when young. The speaker

insisted that much more room should be provided for the reference departments. The reference library had, he thought, suffered in the past from neglect, mainly because of the costly character of its books, and in the competition between it and the more popular lending library it had often to go to the wall. He pleaded for a more generous recognition of the good work done in this department. It must be remembered that the main work of the lending library was to provide recreation. This was a useful aim, but not the highest. The work of the reference library was study, and surely it was hardly necessary to ask that full facilities should be provided therein for that purpose. With regard to the provision of lecture halls in connection with libraries, he was of opinion that they were not worth the expense of their building and upkeep. Providing them seemed to him to be foreign to the purpose of the Libraries Act, and it was folly to burden the already overloaded penny rate with their cost.

The discussion was opened by Messrs. S. K. Greenslade and Maurice B. Adams, F.R.I.B.A., who both contributed valuable matter to the debate; the former detailing some of his American experiences, and the latter covering wide general lines of policy. Other speakers who followed, notably Messrs. Cowell (Liverpool), Bryen (Islington), Welch (Guildhall), Purves (Workington), and others, dealt with the question of lecture-room provision, and it was pretty generally conceded that spare rooms of this kind were of immense value. We believe Mr. Burgoyne himself is of this opinion, provided their provision and use are not crippling to other departments of purely library work. In our view it is not possible to have too many odd rooms in connection with a Public Library building.

The session concluded with the reading of a "further report of the Committee on Cataloguing Rules," submitted by Mr. John Minto (Brighton), which was unanimously adopted.

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#### THE SOCIAL SIDE.

Perhaps the most interesting and enjoyable features of the Conference on its social side were the visits paid to colleges and other places of interest, and the attentions received at the hands of the University and Town authorities. The custodians of colleges, libraries and other institutions were exceedingly kind, and took every opportunity of explaining everything rare, curious or interesting.

On Monday, August 21st, a reception was given at the Guildhall by the Mayor and the Public Free Library Committee, which gave the members an opportunity of renewing old friendships and reviving old memories. Many local ladies and gentlemen were present, and a male glee party enlivened the proceedings by singing a number of doleful dirges relating to cypresses, graves, untimely deaths and suchlike cheerful topics. In other respects the function was successful, and gave a good start to the Conference. On Tuesday, August 22nd, visits were paid to colleges and other buildings, and tea was served at

St. Peter's College Library by invitation of Dr. A. W. Ward. During the same afternoon a garden party was given in the grounds of Downing College by invitation of the Master and Mrs. Hill, and was well attended and much appreciated.

On Wednesday, August 23rd, visits were made to King's College Chapel, the University Library, Trinity Hall Library, and St. John's College Library. The arrangements in the University Library excited much interest, and the chained books in Trinity Hall were examined with special attention in the light of Dr. Clark's lecture earlier in the day. In the evening an "Executive" meeting was held in the reading-room of the Public Library, with Mr. H. R. Tedder in the chair. This did not get into full swing till 10.30, owing to the chairman's absence at a council meeting; but in the interval tea and coffee, soda water and its usual accompaniments, smoking necessaries, and other requisites of an "Executive" were served. Most of the entertainment was contributed by members of the L.A., and among the notable "turns" were Mr. Bowes' rendering of "Row weel, my boatie, row weel," a ballad which at once betrayed the singer's nationality; a pathological story of a Turkish bath by Mr. Johnston, of Gateshead; Mr. Turner's admirable rendering of "Come into the garden, Maud"; and Mr. Crowther's venerable chestnut about the workhouse. In other respects the Executive meeting was successful, and gave great pleasure to every participant.

Thursday, August 24th, was the occasion for visits to Trinity College and Library, and for a most charming garden party in Trinity College Fellows' garden by invitation of Dr. Jenkinson the President. The day was delightful, the gardens beautiful, and everyone present will carry away pleasant recollections of a thoroughly enjoyable gathering. On Thursday evening the Annual Dinner of the Association was given in the Hall of King's College, when about 120 members and guests were present. It was a thoroughly dull function in nearly every respect, without one sparkle of "go" to enliven it. The only note of interest was struck when Mr. Tedder, on behalf of the subscribers, presented Mr. Inkster, the retiring Honorary Secretary, with a silver salver and service of plate, as a mark of appreciation for his services to the L. A.; but chiefly, it was generally considered, to mark the love and respect borne him as a friend and a librarian. Mr. Inkster made a suitable reply, and the proceedings terminated soon after. Another such annual dinner, and we have no hesitation in foretelling the speedy extinction of the function. Friday, August 25th, was given up entirely to sight-seeing. Mr. Pink conducted a party through Cambridge by brake, visiting Chesterton, two branch libraries, the round church, St. John's, Clare, Trinity and other colleges, and generally giving the visitors a splendid idea of the town and some of its less prominent features. The visitors were specially struck with the branch library at Mill Road, which, in a small way, realizes Mr. Hare's conception of a library in one room. The building has an airy reading room, a lending department, and a spacious room for children, fitted with small chairs and desks, and supplied with plenty of picture books, and

periodicals. Other parties visited the Colleges, and in the afternoon a considerable number of members visited Ely, where they were shown over the Cathedral by the Dean, and afterwards were entertained to tea by some inhabitants of Ely. The Conference thus ended as it had begun, in an atmosphere of learning and religion.



## LIBRARY ASSISTANTS AND THE STUDY OF LITERATURE.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS, *Sub-Librarian, Croydon Public Libraries.*

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NOW the Professional Examination pass list has been issued, it seems fitting and interesting to consider the relative popularity of the various sections. Literary History and its handmaid, Bibliography, have very few devotees; while the two more practical sections, Library History and Organisation and Library Administration, are exceedingly popular. Perhaps this is as it should be, but it seems to me a wrong view to take of our professional equipment. Technics of librarianship are absolutely essential. No one will challenge that; but the very best technical equipment and initiative will only bring about mechanical means of work. To glance through such a publication as *Greenwood's Year-book* is to discover that librarian after librarian imagines that if he has invented some particular contrivance for reaching top shelves, or some magnifying-glass-upon-a-pole arrangement, he has gained an immortal niche in the temple of librarianship. The literary side of the profession never seems to enter into his calculations. The last result of this is, that the name of one candidate appears on the pass-list for literary history; and, what is far more appalling, only four entries for the examination were made. I believe there are several reasons for this; and, as I happen to be the candidate whose name appears *solus* on this year's pass-list in this subject, perhaps I may be allowed to offer a few suggestions on it.

So intense and short is the modern school curriculum, that the briefest review of literature scarcely enters it. The scholars have drummed into their heads year by year, some, to them, incomprehensible lines of Shakespeare or Milton, which they drone over day by day, until, instead of being furthered mentally by the exercise, they have learned to abhor poets and all their works. This is the full extent to which literary teaching enters into elementary schools. The result is obvious. Recently, in the Croydon libraries, an examination was held for a junior assistantship. Nineteen candidates presented themselves. A dictation exercise revealed that half of the lads had but elementary ideas of spelling and punctuation. These were weeded out,

and the remainder were subjected to a few fair questions in general knowledge including a few in English literature. To the question : What did Dr. Johnson write? two answered "a dictionary"; to : Mention a work of Lord Byron's, one only found an answer, and that was "The man of Ross!"; to : Who wrote Casabianca? the varying answers were "Tennyson" and "Byron." Most of them did not know who wrote "Pilgrim's Progress" any more than they understood what Fiscal Policy was. This last, by the way, was explained : "Fiscal policy is a policy you have to depend on for your life," which, I suppose, is true or otherwise according to the political point of view. It is natural, then, that an assistant whose first education in literature is so restricted, should remain restricted afterwards, unless his environment leads him to study literature ; or unless he is taught at once that the foundation of librarianship is the study of literature, and that technical training of the highest without this falls a long way short of the best results. Later on, the assistant becomes a skilled title-a-line cataloguer, an admirable operator with the Indicator or "card-charging"; but if you were to ask him how he would prove from internal evidence that Bacon could not possibly have written Shakespeare's plays ; or the difference in the works of Sir Edwin Arnold and Matthew Arnold ; or the relation of Ruskin to Carlyle, he would in all probability have nothing to say, and, worse still, consider you half insane to ask such questions. And yet these are very like the questions our borrowers would ask every day, if they were not well aware that it is useless to ask them. I understand, and in part appreciate, the position that an assistant in a library inhales literary knowledge through every pore. But this is one of those dangerous half-truths, very much on a level with the strange opinion so often expressed that above all works a man should read Gibbon's "Decline and Fall." Both are true in a slight degree ; but the relation of one book to another, *i.e.*, absolutely skilled classification, cannot be secured without internal acquaintance with books of all periods in our literature ; and this acquaintance cannot be gained by generations of library counter gossip or handling of bindings alone.

The position of the Library Association with regard to this subject is not at all clear. The actual examination part of the syllabus is as follows :

1. Candidates will be required to show a knowledge of English literature, especially of the modern period, including the literature of the British Colonies and the United States of America.
2. In addition to a knowledge of works by English authors, candidates will be expected to show a knowledge of English translations of the works of great foreign writers, and are recommended to read some such general work as Hallam's "Introduction to the literature of Europe."
3. Candidates will be required to satisfy the examiners as to their knowledge of the editions and forms in which the works of the authors have been published.



I am acquainted with many examination requirements in literature, including those of the London University; and I do not hesitate to say that this syllabus is by far the most wide. It demands that the candidate should be primed not only in the whole of our own very extensive literature from Beowulf to William Watson, but that he shall know all the uninteresting and useless trivialities of colonial and American literature. The answer to this, perhaps, is that the librarian's business is to know even these trivialities; but, after all, it is of little professional value to know that after the coming of confederation in Canada someone wrote "one of the most remarkable poems ever written outside of Great Britain." Besides, I have consulted many authorities, and am unable to trace any such poem. So much for its importance. This question was actually asked in 1904, and, I am convinced that many candidates were deterred from entering this year by this and one or two other equally impossible questions on the same paper. Again, one candidate who sat at the last examination had, on the strength of the question cited, got up his colonial literature, somewhat neglecting the home literature, it is true; consequently he has not come to the surface in the result. It is surely unfair to ask one type of questions one year, and another the next. What is needed, it seems to me, is a clearer definition of what is to be expected; not this limitless survey of the whole field. Or, better still, the examination should be confined each year to one period of history. The whole field should, of course, be known, but English literature is an evolution, and one cannot study *thoroughly* any period without learning much of what went before and what follows. No one less than a professor of English literature could obtain honours or even merit, on this year's papers, simple as it seemed superficially. And this is entirely owing to the want of limit and definition in the subject. In itself the paper was a very fair one; but, one or two questions demanded answers that were matters of opinion merely, and there the candidate is at the mercy of the caprice—I say it respectfully—of the examiner. For instance. "Burke is the greatest English prose-writer. Discuss this," was a magnificent question for a hundred page treatise, but to be answered adequately with thirteen other questions in three hours was impossible. Then, "What are the qualities that make for success in a novel; and how far would these affect the failure or success of a play" was another. Consider; a modern novel may in the opinions of three different persons respectively, depend for success on its plot; on its characterisation; or on its observance of the dramatic unities. With these exceptions I have no criticism of the paper, to make; its demands were fair, or as fair as any could be on so wide a syllabus.

I hope these comments of mine are in good taste; they are meant in the most respectful and earnest deference to the examining body. To be a little constructive in my remarks, I imagine that the needs and hopes of many assistants would be fulfilled, did the Library Association institute lectures in literary history. I am told that so many other bodies have courses on this subject. They have; but not at *hours* and fees to meet library assistants. If a course were inaugurated, I feel

sure it would be well supported ; if the syllabus were narrowed to essentials, more timid assistants would enter ; and if a certain amount of regularity in the questions year by year were maintained, we should not see so often the disheartening words : "No passes." And to library assistants this syllogism is discouraging :

Librarianship has its foundation on literature.  
We have no training in literature.  
Consequently we know nothing of the foundation  
of our profession.

This is not the growl of a disappointed man ; but the observation of an earnest student, who has tried his best with this examination.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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*[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]*

**Brighton.**—The Treasury has remitted the duties on all the gifts made by the late Mr. Henry Willett within twelve months before his death, and the bequest to the Library and Museum Committee. This is as it should be !

**Bromley, Kent.**—The Central Library, which will be removed into the new Carnegie building in a few months' time, has now been classified according to the Dewey tables. To the usual keys to the classification an atlas-key is being added. This consists of a large atlas, on the maps of which the class numbers in history and travel are being hand-printed in bold numbers. The card-charging system has also been installed, and is at present being used in conjunction with the indicator and the classified stock. The records of the library have been reduced to a combined stock-shelf register and a card-catalogue. One number, consisting of class number and book-mark, is used for all purposes of registration and charging. Prose fiction and biography have been arranged in alphabetical order, and an alphabetical number, with possibilities of unlimited expansion, has been applied, this being, it is believed the first time that individual book-marks, permitting intercalation at any point, without restriction, have been applied to these classes in open access libraries.

**Dewsbury.**—One of the Councillors having expressed himself strongly against the classification of certain additions to the collection of books in the Public Library, Mr. W. H. Smith, the Librarian, writes to the Press protesting against the reflection on his capabilities, and instances

some of the difficulties which beset a librarian in classifying works without minute sub-divisions. We believe most librarians will endorse Mr. Smith's statements.

**Dundee: Arthurstone.**—This branch Public Library, opened last May, proves to be of much value to the District, 17,925 volumes having been issued in the first three months.

**East Ham.**—The new Public Library at Manor Park was opened by Mr. J. Bryce, M.P., on August 3rd. This library is the third in this new and populous borough. There were many points in Mr. Bryce's thoughtful address to which we would refer did space allow, but can only quote what we take to give the reason why no list of "the hundred best books" can be of real service. Mr. Bryce remarked "You can no more prescribe the same books for everybody than you can prescribe the same diet." Mental powers of assimilation must vary as those of the body.

**Exeter.**—Mr. H. Tapley Soper, the Librarian, of the Public Library is to be congratulated on the fact that at the meeting of the Governors of the Royal Albert Memorial, held July 31st, the Town Clerk, on behalf of the subscribers to the Reception Fund of the Cambridge University Extension summer meeting, presented 117 volumes to the Governors for the reference library, to commemorate the summer meeting held in Exeter last year.

**Fareham.**—The Urban District Council rejected the proposal to adopt the Public Libraries Act, only Mr. C. V. Senior and two other councillors voting for it at a recent meeting.

**Falmouth.**—Mr. N. Fox, the librarian, had recently to report to the Public Library Committee the mutilation of *The Studio* in the reading room. On a former occasion a youth was detected in a similar act and reprimanded by the committee, but it would be well in future to bring such cases before the magistrates.

**Grahamstown.**—A hearty welcome has been accorded to Mr. D. W. Herdman, whose appointment to the Public Librarianship at Grahamstown we recently noticed. On arrival at Port Elizabeth he was met at the waterside by Mr. Cooper, the Librarian at that port, and on proceeding, the train was boarded at Highlands station by Dr. Bruce-Bays, the Chairman of the Grahamstown Committee, who had come out to meet Mr. Herdman, and Professor G. E. Cory welcomed him on his arrival.

**Great Harwood.**—The Public Library seems as far off as ever, the District Council not seeing its way to accept Dr. Carnegie's three-year-old offer of £3,000, on conditions.

**Hanwell.**—The Public Library is to be opened on September 27th, at 7 p.m., with ceremonies yet to be decided upon. Mr. F. Pocock, of Brentford, has been elected librarian.

**Hull.**—Mr. Lawton, the Chief Librarian, has adopted a novel plan of dealing with the betting news difficulty. At a recent meeting of the Public Library Committee Mr. Lawton stated that for some weeks the pages containing the objectionable news had been taken out of those papers which give special prominence to sporting subjects, and that he thought the plan had been successful, as it gave persons desiring to see the general news and advertisements in the papers referred to a better chance of doing so, without causing any legitimate grievance, as, except in two or three instances, no person had asked to see the portions of the papers kept back.

**Leyland.**—Public opinion seems, if we may judge from the report of a recent meeting, to be inclining towards acceptance of Dr. Carnegie's offer of a Public Library. The Vicar of Leyland promises to present £50 worth of reference books, should the Library be established.

**Liverpool.**—Mr. Peter Cowell, the Chief Librarian, is desirous that the Corporation should provide unpretentious but comfortable reading-rooms in the poorer districts, for example, between Scotland Road and the docks. Attached to these reading-rooms might be a small room for smoking and conversation.

**Llangollen.**—On August 10th, the opening of the Town Hall, in which the Public Library is housed, was succeeded by a grand concert in aid of the Library fund. Sir Theodore Martin gave weighty words of advice and encouragement, dwelling on the need for careful selection of the books to be placed in the library.

**London : Camberwell.**—The Central Library has been the recipient of a valuable gift, Mr. R. C. Jackson, F.S.A., having presented a set of Pinelli's celebrated engravings, illustrative of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, in uncut state, in original paper covers, and in perfect condition. Mr. Snowsill, the Camberwell Librarian, proposes to exhibit them in sections.

**London : Guildhall.**—It seems likely that the library will be enriched by the collection of Dickensiana formed by the late Mr. F. G. Kitton, the well-known writer on Charles Dickens.

**London : Hammersmith.**—The Duke of Argyll, when opening the Public Library, on July 24th, drew attention to the list of by-gone worthies associated with Hammersmith—Turner, Kauffman, Thomson, Fielding, Wheatstone, and others. The handsome building is splendidly equipped and accommodates 30,000 volumes, under the charge of Mr. Martin, the Librarian.

**London : Islington.**—A library of 35,000 books, the property of a gentleman in Huddersfield has been purchased for the Public Library, upon the advice of Mr. J. D. Brown, who made a careful examination of the collection.

**London : Natural History Museum.**—Mr. B. B. Woodward, the Librarian of the Museum, has got together a truly remarkable collection of early works on natural history, ranging from Pliny's *Historia Naturalis*, published in 1469, to books of modern days.

**Malvern.**—*The Builder* publishes Mr. H. A. Crouch's design, which appears to be eminently suitable for the new Public Library.

“The site is a large one, and the building is being kept at the back, while the forecourt is to be laid out as a public garden for the benefit of the town. The building is to be worked on the open-access system. A children's reading-room has been provided in the basement, with ample book storage, while the caretaker's quarters are arranged in the roof over the librarian's room and store.”

The cost of the building is defrayed by Dr. Carnegie and Mr. Dyson Perrins, the site being given by Sir Henry Lambert.

**Nelson.**—In view of the limited size of the site of the new Public Library, Messrs J. R. Poyser and W. B. Savidge, the joint architects, have produced a plan making the best use of the space and so arranging that the rooms are grouped round the entrance hall and all persons passing through are under the observation of the staff. *The Builder* last month published a view of the building.

**Newport, Mon.**—Mr. James Matthews, the Public Librarian, has been instrumental in securing a valuable addition to the Museum and Library, Lord Tredegar, with his wonted generosity having presented the whole of the plates and blocks which ornament and add so much to that great work of the closing years of the eighteenth century, *Coxe's History of Monmouthshire*.

**Portadown: Ireland.**—The Public Library, built by the aid of Dr. Carnegie's grant is now open. The lending library contains accommodation for 6,500 volumes.

**Ramsgate.**—The new Public Library, designed by Mr. Stanley D. Adshead, is the subject of an illustration in *The Building News*, August 18th. The plan seems to have been well considered; lending library, magazine room, news room and reference room are on one floor.

**Reading.**—We note in a recent report presented by Mr. W. H. Greenhough to the Public Library Committee, that the scheme for supplying schools with books, inaugurated some years ago, continues to be highly appreciated.

**Salisbury.**—Lord Avebury has consented to open the new Public Library on October 2nd.

**Sandown.**—Lord Alverstone opened the Public Library on July 29th, Dr. Carnegie sending a telegram congratulating Sandown upon its library and upon obtaining the distinguished Peer to perform the opening ceremony. Lord Alverstone made an admirable speech, in the course of which he pleaded for the study of the History of England, and the part taken therein by the Isle of Wight.

**St. Helens.**—On August 16th, Mr. A. Lancaster, the librarian, was able to present a very satisfactory report to the St. Helens Public Library Committee. In the course of the meeting it was stated that the result

of blacking out betting news from the papers in the public reading-rooms was quite satisfactory. Previous to the putting in force of this resolution legitimate news readers were greatly hindered by crowds round the betting pages.

**Truro.**—Mr. W. J. Martin reports various valuable gifts to the Public Library, and an increase in the circulation of books. A growing interest in books of travel and adventure is manifested by the young folks of the Cornish city.

**West Ham.**—Under the heading "The Library Blacking Brush" Mr. Charles Hughes publishes a letter in the *Stratford Express* from which we extract a few pertinent remarks in order to show the other side of the question. After protesting his detestation of betting, the writer continues :

"I would be only too thankful if the blacking out of starting prices from newspapers in our public libraries diminished the evil. But will any thoughtful person maintain such a proposition? I cannot understand the childish policy of turning on lads to waste an hour or two each day to blacken newspapers. The victims of the bookmakers are surely not those who visit our public institutions. No local club would dream of blacking out its newspapers, and as I regard our public institutions as the universal club, I respectfully protest against the disfiguring of public property at the instigation of town councillors misusing their authority, for the burgesses have never had an opportunity of saying whether they favour this policy or not. I hope many will early protest against treating us as little children who cannot be trusted to read inside a public institution papers open to all outside."

It is time that some definite policy should be adopted for dealing with the question, and would again draw attention to the suggestion made by Mr. H. Bayley, of Tunstall (see *Library World*, August).

**Waterford.**—The Public Library Committee now become the owners of the Museum collection, it having been formally handed over to them at a special meeting on August 2nd.

**Woolwich.**—On August 1st, Colonel C. F. Hadden opened the new reference library, established at the expense of the War Department, for the benefit of all persons serving in the Ordnance Factories. The library is housed in the old Arsenal Chapel, and contains about 1,000 scientific books of the classes likely to be of real service.

**Wrexham.**—Mr. Vernon Hodge, the architect, estimates the cost of building at £3,400. From the elevation and plans published in *The Building News* we gather that the best use has been made of the limited sum at command. The building is to be of red brick and stone with green slate roofing.

**York.**—Mr. H. Furnish, the City Librarian, pleads for more accommodation for the news and reading rooms, the present spaces being unduly crowded during the winter months.

**Mr. Ernest A. Baker, M.A.**, the Librarian of Wallasey, contributes to the August number of *The World's Work and Play* an interesting account of the efforts made by library authorities to bring sound and suitable literature within the reach of the young.

Incidentally Mr. Baker remarks

"that just forty years ago a Public Library took the first step in the work of providing special books for young readers, Birkenhead, in 1865, commencing to issue books to children, and in 1881 the children's library was set apart with a catalogue of its own."

**Mr. W. Temple Franks** has resigned the post of assistant librarian of the House of Commons to become secretary of the Railway Companies' Association at a commencing salary of £1,000 per annum.

**Mr. J. McAdam**, Chief Assistant of the Cheltenham Public Library, has been appointed Sub-Librarian of the Warrington Museum and Library.

**Mr. W. Maddern**, Librarian of the Public Library at Newton, was married at the Bible Christian Chapel, East Stonehouse, to Miss Elsie Pedlar, on July 31st.

**Mr. Hargreaves Wilkinson**, Librarian of the Literary Institute, Burnley, has been appointed first Librarian of Rawtenstall Public Library out of 67 applicants.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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ONE of the most frequently heard complaints, both from persons entrusted with the organization of professional programmes and from ordinary mortals, is that there is no branch of library economy left to write about or discuss, owing to everything having already been thoroughly threshed out. It is quite refreshing, under these circumstances, to come across a few who believe that there is still virgin ground in the field of library economy, and who give tangible proof that their belief is well founded. The past year has produced a few articles that stand out prominently owing to their treating of practically new, undiscussed subjects. No doubt several will come to mind, but the following selection may be mentioned: Mr. L. Stanley Jast's "Cataloguing Bureau for Public Libraries"; Mr. Brown's "Selection of Periodicals"; Mr. E. A. Savage's "Annotation," and "Co-operative Bookbuying"; Mr. H. V. Hopwood's "Shelf-Placing"; Mr. J. D. Stewart's "Guiding an Open-Access Library"; Mr. A. L. Clarke's "Indexing"; and Messrs. W. C. B. Sayers' and J. D. Stewart's "Library Magazines." To the credit of the last named, Messrs. Sayers and Stewart, another must be placed: "Catalogues for Children," printed in the August number of the *Library Association Record*. The opening sentences explain the argument. "The

great attention given to work for children in recent years, both in this country and America, causes us to wonder that the interesting problem of juvenile cataloguing has received so little systematic treatment. There can be no doubt that the present method of cataloguing is unsound in this particular. Many excellent catalogues, dictionary and classified, have been issued for children, but they all err on the side of complexity. The cataloguer seems always to have had the adult reader in mind when compiling his catalogue. This in itself is illogical, and yet no one seems to have recognized the fact. It is a sound premise . . . that the catalogue should be such as can be understood by those who are to use it. However excellently and scientifically compiled it may be, the juvenile catalogue fails if there appear in it terms or phrases, either in the entry or the annotation that are not readily understood by the child." And further on: "The point of view adopted throughout has been that the cataloguer should place himself in the position of the reader of the book."

Following this up, the writers give a complete code of rules—eighty-seven in all—with examples, enabling the cataloguer to compile a simple and systematic catalogue for children. To summarize it here—the actual code of rules runs to nine closely printed pages—would be impossible, but the general outlines may be indicated. After the ordinary definitions come a series of general rules laying out the plan of the catalogue, which is a graded classified one. Under this division is included a rule, "No abbreviations of any kind must, under any circumstances, be employed," which we heartily endorse. Following these come rules for punctuation and capitalization, and then we get to the actual entry arranged under its various parts. Finally, come rules for the index and for annotation. A complete code is given, as it was found to be impracticable otherwise to indicate the points of difference from ordinary adult cataloguing. In passing, we may say that, in our opinion, many of the simplifications introduced for "Juveniles," might with advantage be introduced into ordinary cataloguing. However, for further information we must refer readers to the code itself. Before leaving the paper, a paragraph from the introductory remarks may be quoted. It deals with the classification of fiction, a matter the *Library World* has always supported. "One important matter of arrangement should receive consideration. In addition to the ordinary section devoted to fiction, an extremely useful feature is the classification of a selection of the more important story-books among the subjects of which they treat. Thus tales of historical events may be classified under the country and period dealt with; tales describing particular industries, and so on. Very often a much better idea of a trade, profession, historical event, or in fact any subject, may be gained from a story than from a text-book. Look at the amount of sugar-coated history in Henty's books, for example, and the information about all sorts and conditions of people in those of Ballantyre. There is not the slightest doubt that this arrangement—and, after all, it is simply a matter of arrangement—would amply repay any trouble taken." There are many other points in the paper, and we can heartily recommend it



to the attention of everyone interested in library work. The other article in the number is Mr. C. F. Newcombe's "Some Aspects of the Work of Henry Bradshaw." It is printed at an opportune moment, being issued in time for the Cambridge meeting, and is an enthusiastic appreciation of the great bibliographer written in the pleasing manner we expect from Mr. Newcombe.

The August *Library Assistant* contains a short article by Mr. W. J. Harris on "Recent Developments in the Rating of Libraries," in which it is contended that Public Libraries should be mentioned by name in the Literary Societies Act, 1843, thus securing beyond dispute exemption from rates. There is also a long list of "The Monastic Historians," by Mr. Frederic Kent. By-the-way, we notice that the editorship of this magazine has again changed; it is now in the hands of Mr. Hugh Smith.

The methods and materials of book production in England and America are compared by Mr. George French in a paper on "Books as Books," in the May *Literary Collector*. He concludes that American bookmakers of the first class produce the finest books in the world, and that the general run of books in America are superior to English ones. American composing and presswork is superior to English, and although the best English binding and paper is better than the best American, the ordinary kinds are inferior. He ends with a characteristically American note: "When all is said that can be said for the American book, we must confess that it is not due to our literary spirit that we excel, nor to our artistic appreciation of beautiful books. It is the never resting American spirit of progress, the mania to improve and quicken everything connected with mechanics and material progress, that has forced us to the front. It is not the literary class that we have to thank. It is the printers, the papermakers, the typefounders, the binders, the builders of printing and binding machinery, and the cover designers to whom we owe our meed of gratitude for the agreeable fact that America is now making the finest common books." There is also a description of the "Silver Library of Duke Albrecht of Prussia," by M. Th. A. Fischer.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the Northern Counties Library Association was held at Workington, on July 10th. After luncheon, provided by the Mayor of Workington, papers were read by Mr. Basil Anderson (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Mr. Purvis (Workington) for Mr. Lawton (Hull), Mr. Caddie (Stoke-on-Trent), and the Rev. Canon Rawnsley. Workington Hall, the seat of the Curwen family, was visited, and after tea, provided by the Mayor, the delegates were shown through the Moss Bay Steel Works.

## THE PSEUDONYMS.

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THE usual annual meeting of this august body was held in the vicinity of the "Backs" at Cambridge, on a sultry evening during the Conference week. The chair was occupied, but not graced, by Orlando Furioso, who inflicted some stale platitudes on the club, and unblushingly declared that he had annexed them from an outside member. The early proceedings were considerably interrupted by the curiosity of a number of ORDINARY members of the Library Association, who climbed on the window sills and tried to look past the blinds into the meeting room. One very forward person even tried to brush past the Doorward in the disguise of a waiter, bearing a tray of glasses purporting to be usquebaugh and aerated waters. Luckily the Doorward instantly detected the attempt by smelling the potations, which proved to be dry ginger ales masquerading as mountain dew. Other ORDINARY members hung about the precincts till an early hour of the following morning, but as most of the Pseudonyms had escaped up the chimney, or had sneaked out by a side door disguised as ORDINARY members, an unholy curiosity was thus foiled.

The chairman's remarks were prefaced by some impertinent personal allusions to members present, which were duly resented, and he then proceeded to act the part of Jackdaw in borrowed plumes. Briefly, his discourse was a kind of threnody concerning the atrophied condition of the Library Association, and particularly the composition of its council. This, he contended, was not representative of the varied interests which composed the Association. What was wanted, in his opinion, seemed to be more library chairmen and fewer librarians on the governing body, in order to gain enhanced importance, business capacity and influence. He advocated the gradual effacement of the librarian element, and the substitution of aldermen, bailies, councillors, town-clerks, booksellers, bookbinders, library appliance men, indicator men, builders, architects, chair pad and floor-oil men; and, in short, all the various *interests* which make the Library Association what it is. Failing some kind of immolation on the part of the librarian element, he suggested a limitation of such representation, and the abolition of London and Country distinctions, which only caused jealousy and trouble. This was a topic on which the Pseudonyms could *spread* themselves. And they did. Words fail to convey any idea of the hurricane of eloquence which followed, and as the reporter cannot exactly recall who said what, or what was really said, it is thought better to give a general impression, rather than a fictitious verbatim report.

Most of the speakers were in favour of having a larger representation of non-librarian members of council, but no one could say how this was to be done, nor did any member of council present volunteer to resign in favour of his chairman or someone else. A suggestion that more members were required, rather than a change in the com-

position of the governing body, was endorsed by most of the speakers. Other vague general remarks were made about the danger of the L.A. becoming a mere trade union, and complaint was made that the papers read were too technical and narrow in scope to interest the public. Incidentally, many other points were touched upon, and various "sores" and "blights," real or imagined, were clinically examined. One speaker contended that the reason why the composition of the council had changed in recent years was the number of deaths which had occurred among the eminent non-librarian members of long standing, and the failure of institutions to send delegates of equal calibre. Another reason was the enormous growth of the municipal library side, and the additional fact that recruits from that branch were in earnest about the work, and carried the factor of continuity right through their membership. On the other hand, councillor-delegates were not permanent enough, nor sufficiently interested, like some of the Manchester men, to become members in their own right, hence great changes in the *personnel* of this class of member were continually going on.

The meeting unanimously resolved that "something ought to be done by somebody," and after prayers the members separated in order to preserve the integrity of the licence.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—I am much obliged to you and Mr. Lister for his letter on page 23 of your July issue. It seems to me a curious coincidence that it appeared in the same number as my advertisement on page iv.

I apprehend there are not many librarians who, like Mr. Lister, have so perfected themselves in the arts of swimming, and the re-animation of the apparently drowned, as to take the certificate of the Royal Lifesaving Society.

It is not so much on the portion of my book about swimming that I pride myself, as in my endeavour to make it a model of a bibliography, not only as to subject, but printing. I took immense trouble to get the printing in accordance with the suggestions I have made for many years past.

Alterations at first are called fads, but one fad of mine has been long since generally adopted, namely the lessening of the useless punctuation on title-pages.

RALPH THOMAS.

## EDITORIAL.

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THE TEACHING OF LITERATURE.  

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I N last month's *Library World* attention is drawn to the subject of literary history and its teaching by Mr. Sayers, who points out some weak points in the syllabus and examination scheme of the Library Association. His remarks recall the fact that this subject has always been a difficult and rather inflammable one to tackle, because wrapped up in it is that other exciting question of Language, which must be taken in connection with Literature when considered as a teaching subject. We understand that the Literary History syllabus of the L.A. is merely a compromise, which arose out of a tangle caused by the language difficulty. The draft scheme for the teaching of Literary History which was first submitted, provided for a very strict limitation of the subject to the great authors of all nations, according to a list which had been prepared. This scheme proposed to get over the language difficulty by allowing for all purposes the use of text-books and translations in English, because it was felt to be utterly ridiculous to expect students to be equipped with first-hand knowledge of Homer, Dante, Hafiz, Confucius, the Vedas, Molière, Cervantes, Schiller, Virgil, Tolstoy, and other great authors. This proposal, which would have limited the requirements of the examination to a biographical and critical knowledge of about 300 or 400 of the greatest authors of all times, was rejected, and in its place was adopted the compromise to which Mr. Sayers and many others object. This compromise on the face of it, limits the examination to English Literature only, but, when more closely scanned, it will be found also to demand a most extraordinary knowledge of all kinds of foreign authors, in a form which has not yet been systematically recorded. Apart from this, the dimensions of an unlimited survey of English Literature are enormous, because there is no attempt at definition. All that can be gathered from the actual Examination Papers is that the examiners have largely confined themselves to the purely critical side of the subject. But students are not told that modern technical and scientific literature is excluded, nor is any indication given which will show that it is the "literature of power," and not of "knowledge," in which candidates are expected to be proficient. Now, it is perfectly well known to every reader that not 1 per cent. of the books published is *literature* at all. The output of printed matter all over the world consists mostly of Lamb's "books which are not books"—text-books, ephemera, rubbish in general, and other nondescript essays in typographical art—which have no real place in a Literary History Syllabus. It was to get over this anomaly, and equip students with the knowledge mostly required

in libraries—an acquaintance with “books which are not books”—that the original draft scheme for the Literary History syllabus imposed a limitation which should prove effective in confining the examination to pure literature, and relegating the literature of knowledge to the sections devoted to Bibliography and Book Selection. In the present Syllabus, as revised, this distribution actually takes place, but with an extraordinary degree of overlapping which makes it necessary for a candidate to pass *thrice* in Literary History! He must first pass in Section I. Literary History, which demands among many other things a “knowledge of the editions and forms in which the works of the authors have been published.” Good. No limitation here, and any examiner would, accordingly, be perfectly fair and within his rights in asking for bibliographical details of Cocker’s *Arithmetic* or Buchan’s *Domestic Medicine*. Again, in Section II., Elements of Practical Bibliography, we have a demand for knowledge of book selection, the best books and periodicals, and courses of reading. Here, once more, no limitation, and again an examiner could ask when the first edition in English of the “Arabian Nights” was published, or what is the best edition of Cædmon or the Koran. Finally, in Section V., Library History and Organization, the same requirements are set forth, without any limitation, and candidates are evidently expected to possess a full knowledge of *all* literature before they can obtain a certificate. All this is very confusing and absurd, and gives point to every complaint which has been uttered against this part of the scheme of examinations. After all, a *dilletante*, gossipy, pseudo-critical acquaintance with literary history is of very little practical value, compared with exact bibliographical knowledge concerning great authors and their works. For this reason we think the Association should carefully revise its Syllabus, and adopt a better-proportioned and more equitable distribution of the subject. Section I. certainly requires strict limitation within reasonable bounds, and it ought to be confined to a working knowledge of the chief authors of the world according to a carefully prepared list of names. This should demand knowledge of biographical and critical facts, plus enough of bibliographical detail regarding titles to satisfy an examiner. Failing this, a list of authors, periods, or subjects selected for study and examination should be issued every year before the examination; but a fixed limitation to begin with would, we think, be better.

In Section II. the book-selection examination should be limited every year to a select list of subjects, announced some time previous to the examination, so that students could be much more thoroughly and effectually tested than they are at present. From this Section the “Selection of Periodicals” should be transferred to Section V., and “Courses of Reading” to Section VI. “The Book-buying and Accession Methods” part of Section V. should be revised by the excision of the “Book Selection” and “Aids and Guides to Books,” divisions which are already provided for in Section II., a more natural place.

Of course, it can be argued that no limitation can be imposed on a study which is the very foundation of librarianship, even though it is boundless in extent. The answer to this is obviously that every subject

of study must be selective, and, as we have shown, literary history properly distributed can be made teachable, and confined within reasonable dimensions, so as to attract students and thereby greatly improve the standard of efficiency. We commend these suggestions and considerations to the attention of both librarians and library assistants, and shall be glad if a discussion should ensue, which might result in an improvement of what is, at present, an impossible syllabus.



## BOOK DESCRIPTION.

By JAMES DUFF BROWN, *Borough Librarian, Islington.*

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### I.

THE following notes have been selected from a course of lectures delivered some years ago, and are now printed in response to a somewhat urgent demand from a number of library assistants, for some practical elementary information in connection with bibliography and cataloguing. It is with some reluctance that these rather disconnected and unrevised notes are published, and it is chiefly with the hope that they will prove suggestive that they are now abstracted from their context and issued without further preparation.

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The facts of general literary history and those connected with historical typography are exceedingly valuable for purposes of book identification and description, and no one interested in books, or engaged in their cataloguing and circulation, can afford to neglect any means of acquiring knowledge of their history and changes in all ages. Bibliography, literary history and book-production are all so intimately connected and interwoven, that it is impossible to pass over any one of their very close relationships with practical librarianship.

The first important point in connection with a book is its authorship, and so far as this is concerned, the bibliographer covers the same ground as the literary historian and the library cataloguer. An author is the person or institution responsible for the writing or compilation of a book, whether as actual author, editor or compiler. Numerous codes of rules have been compiled, as guides to the treatment of authorships, which are more or less full, and any student who is anxious for a laborious mental exercise, can peruse some of these codes with a view to reconciling their differences. For our present purpose it will be sufficient if every student makes an accurate attribution of a book to its rightful author, and not, perhaps, to a prominent name

which may be but a Latin title-of-honour, part of a dedication, or some portion of a family name not recognized. The errors which are constantly occurring in connection with the cataloguing of authors, prove that there is plenty of room for the careful study of this department of bibliography and cataloguing.

For many years after the establishment of movable type, the only clues to the contents or subject matter of books were furnished in the colophons. The colophon is a kind of valedictory address to the reader in which it is generally stated that, "Here endeth," such and such a book, "imprinted" by so and so, in such and such a place, during a said year. Frequently, these colophons are very full, in other cases they are meagre, and in many instances they are manifestly intended to mystify. Title-pages did not become general till about 1520, but there is a pioneer one facsimiled on page 51 of Bouchot's *Printed Book*, from which it appears that the earliest recorded attempt at a title-page was made at Venice in 1476.

- There is much to be learned from the study of old title-pages, and many traps to be avoided. Misleading title-pages were just as common in the 17th and 18th centuries as they are now. Publishers were just as prone to reissue old books with changed titles, and authors were just as ready to use titles which convey absolutely no information about the contents of their books. The principal points to watch for, in cataloguing old books away from works of reference, such as bibliographies, bibliographical dictionaries, &c., are Latinized names of authors and editors; the use of a form of title which runs authors' names and titles in one sentence; the use of Pseudonyms by authors: mysterious looking dates: and above all, the erroneous idea of subject-matter, so frequently given by a casual examination of title-pages.

The next important point requiring notice in connection with Title-pages, after authorship and title, is the place of publication. The difficulties in connection with these are caused in old books by the use of Latinized names, and in modern foreign books by the vernacular names. It is rather a curious commentary on what has already been said respecting Bibliography being so often considered as a study of *old* books only, that many bibliographical works should give the English equivalents of the old Latin names of towns, but never by any chance the same equivalents of their modern vernacular names. Yet, some of the names to be found on the title-pages of modern books, especially those issued from Austria, Germany and Italy, are much more difficult to render into English than the old Latin forms. For example, one would easily guess that COLONIA stood for Cologne, but might never suspect that KOLN meant the same place.

Next after place of publication comes Date of Publication, in our consideration of bibliographical details. The first book actually dated is the Schöffer Psalter of 1457. Until the formal title-page became generally established about 1520, most dates if used at all, were placed in the colophon of the book. In many cases they were fully described in Latin words or phrases, such as "Anno quingentesimo sexto supra

millesimum," meaning the year 1506, or the dates were supplied in Gothic or Roman figures. In some cases, Chronograms, or sentences in a kind of cipher, were used and in these cases the date was usually indicated by means of capital letters. Most of these have been collected and translated by Hilton, in his two-volume book on Chronograms, so that a single example will suffice to give an idea of their appearance. They were sometimes printed on title-pages, prefaces, colophons or other parts of books, and they aimed at making the deciphering of the year of publication, a nice exercise for the ingenious, or a means of concealment.

The Chronogram shown below will serve as a sufficient example:—

“stVLtVM est DiffICILes habere nVgas.”  
*Stultum est difficiles habere nugas.*

Equal {  $\begin{matrix} \text{V.} & \text{L.} & \text{V.} & \text{M.} & \text{D.} & \text{I.} & \text{I.} & \text{C.} & \text{I.} & \text{L.} & \text{V.} \\ \hline 5 & 50 & 5 & 1,000 & 500 & 1 & 1 & 100 & 1 & 50 & 5 \end{matrix}$

By adding all these Roman numerals together, we obtain the year 1718.

It is extraordinary how few persons, including library assistants, can read the Roman numerals, so as to translate them into Arabic numerals. As this is a very important part of book description and cataloguing, it is necessary to explain the system clearly. Roman dates are made up of the following signs—I, V, X, L, D, M, with certain subsidiary signs to be found in old books.

Units are expressed by i or j or l and V, and we write:—  
 { i., ii., iii., iiii. or iv. (otherwise 1 from 5) v., vi. (5 plus 1),  
 {  $\begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ \text{vii.} & \text{viii.} & \text{ix.} & \text{x.} & \text{xi.} & \text{and so on.} \end{matrix}$  II. is sometimes  
 $\begin{matrix} 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 \end{matrix}$   
 expressed as Z, and the lengthening of an i doubles its value viI = 8.

Tens are expressed by X., XX., XXX., XL. (10 from 50), L. or I.  
 LX., LXX., LXXX., LXXX., or oftener XC. (10 from 100), and C.  
 $\begin{matrix} 60 & 70 & 80 & 90 & 100 \end{matrix}$

Hundreds are usually indicated by C., CC., CCC., CCCC.,  
 $\begin{matrix} 100 & 200 & 300 & 400 \end{matrix}$

D or IO or Io.  
 $\begin{matrix} 500 \end{matrix}$

Thousands are indicated by the letter M. but in old books it is more usual to find the signs CIO, cio and occasionally ∞ or ∞. The combination of these symbols gives the dates. The important point to remember in connection with Roman numerals is that certain numbers are obtained by means of deductions, and this must always be understood when a lower number precedes a higher one as in IV. (4), IX. (9), XIX. (19), XL. (40), XC. (90), CD. (500 less 100) 400, or CCM. (1,000 less 200) = 800. To illustrate this, here are four methods of writing a recent year in Roman numerals:—

- MDCCCLII = 1902, or 1,000, 500, 400 and 2.
- MDCDII = 1902, or 1,000, 500, 500 less 100 and 2.
- MXCVIIIM = 1902, or 1,000 and 1,000 less 98.
- MCMII = 1902, or 1,000 and 1,000 less 100 plus 2.



Here are some other examples :—

**MCCCCLXXZ.** = 1472 ; **MCCCCXXC.** = 1480 ; **MIIJD.** = 1497 ;  
**MID.** = 1499 ; **MCDXCIX** = 1499 ; **∞ DLXX** = 1570 ; **MDLXXII** =  
 1573 ; **CICICLXXVI** = 1576 ; **CICICXXCI** = 1581 ; **MVICIX** = 1609 ;  
**CICICCC.** = 1750 ; **CICICCCC.** = 1800 ; **MDCCC** = 1800.

When a cataloguer has once mastered these difficulties, he or she need have no trouble in reading all the dates on title-pages or colophons likely to be encountered. When dates are expressed in words they can always be translated by means of a dictionary.

As regards modern dates, there is usually little difficulty, unless we consider the misleading practice of those publishers who date books one year ahead of their actual publication. In October, November and December of every year, hundreds of books are issued which bear the date of the following year. This might easily lead to grave errors, and may even cause endless controversy in cases where claims to priority and other evidence were involved. Wherever it is possible to ascertain the exact year of publication, it should always be noted. The British Museum makes a point of indicating dates of publication when they differ from those printed on title-pages.

For a long time past it has been the custom of many librarians and bibliographers to use the letters "N.D." (=no date) in cases where books bear no dates of issue. This is a very useless method, and is even more misleading than the forward dating of books by modern publishers, because it conveys no idea whatever of the approximate period of the book. It is always possible to fix the date of a book within the limits of a century, to begin with, and generally, by a little study of its typography, printer, publisher, preface, allusions, or general style, to get very close to the actual year of its appearance. Then again, there are often dictionaries of literature, biography or bibliography which aid in such matters, and a careful cataloguer is able to get within a reasonable distance of the probable date.

A book entitled :—

"Meditations on the Holy Scriptures." N.D.

might be written in 1560, 1630, 1720 or 1895, but no one could tell by the entry to what period or century it belonged. Surely it is better to expend a little trouble in assigning an approximate date, than to leave the book absolutely undescribed. If the approximate date supplied is shown in square brackets as added matter, no one can question the reasonableness of the practice.

*(To be continued.)*



## LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

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### VI. ANNOTATIONS (*continued*).

34. *Law*.—Indicate whether historical, or modern ; mere technical text, or explanatory, *e.g.*,

**Justinian I. of Rome.** Digest.

The most complete collection of Roman statutes. Forms the foundation of modern law.

**Stephen.** Commentaries on the Laws of England.

Technical. For the professional man.

**LAW WITHOUT LAWYERS.**

Popular exposition of common law.

35. *Education*.—Indicate whether historical, practical, theoretical, critical. Here the qualifications of the author have especial weight. Explain the method : scientific or other ; standpoint towards current teaching methods ; for the teacher or general reader ; school.

36. *Folklore*.—Note if scientific, *i.e.*, introducing ethnological problems ; or mere collections of folk or fairy tales having a literary or recreative interest ; define its geographical limitations ; its specialisation ; in the case of sagas and similar works indicate their historical position.

37. *Philology*.—Works under this head do not call for very special forms of annotation. Given the qualifications of the author, the work will be historical, comparative, elucidative, or grammatical merely, whatever be the language treated. There also fall into this division dictionaries of conversation in various languages. Note : The departure of the book from other books ; any special purpose—to meet the requirements of any examination ; relative difficulty.

38. *Natural Science*.—Note : Technical, scientific, or popular. School of thought, or base—Darwin, Weissmann, Spencer, etc. ; Cognate books ; *e.g.*,

**Kidd, Walter.** Use-Inheritance.

Advanced. The theory of the inheritance of acquired characters supports the Lamarckian view that acquired characters are never inherited. For the contrary view, see Weissmann's "Heredity."

Note if experimental or theoretical merely, as in the case of chemistry ; What new facts are produced ; instance special knowledge required, *e.g.*,

**Ball, Sir Robert.** Story of the Heavens.

A knowledge of mathematics is necessary.

If the author has written previously on the subject indicate his modifications or extensions of previous theories.

39. *Mathematical Science*.—Books under this head call for little remark beyond the relative difficulty of the book. In arithmetic, for example, the use of special formulæ—algebraic or other—must be noted. Special forms of diagrams, illustrative tables ; examples and answers ; method ; *e.g.*,

**Cunnington, Susan.** Story of Arithmetic.

A Study of Arithmetic by the historical method. Questions and answers.

40. *Useful Arts*.—Note if technical, popular, advanced or elementary. Note particularly: The place of the book in regard to other books on the subject. This is important as this heading embraces such progressive arts as medicine, electricity and the mechanical trades. Diagrams and illustrations form a necessary feature of these works, and should be explained with some degree of fulness.

41. *Fine Arts*.—Indicate whether criticism, æsthetics, practical ; elementary or advanced ; note the place of the work if not of recent date. For example, books on painting become superseded from the point of view of technique, but the illustrations still retain value.

42. *Poetry and Belles Lettres*.—The annotation should consist of a note on the historical place of the book. In drama or epic poetry a brief note on the argument is advisable. The editing is often an important point, *e.g.*,

**Pope, Alexander.** Poetical Works. Ed. A. W. Ward ; with notes and intro. memoir.

Pope was born in London in 1688, and died in 1744. He was the dominant poet of the 18th century, and "within certain narrow but impregnable limits one of the greatest masters of poetic form the world has ever seen, and a considerable, though sometimes over-rated satirist."—*Saintsbury: Short Hist. of Eng. Lit.* This ed. contains the author's prefaces, and is very fully annotated.

If a reprint, show the deviations from other editions ; special notes and explanations, etc.

43. *Travel or Description*.—Note if works of exploration, scientific travels, or globe-trotting ; indicate period ; course of the journey or voyage ; object of journey ; special methods of travel—by "canoe," "balloon," etc. ; results, *i.e.*, ascent of virgin peaks, new territories explored, and new observations on natural features. Show the relation of book to other subjects, for example, the results of Sir Harry Johnston's discoveries on zoology, etc. Give the date of the

journey. In older travels, note what books have superseded them, or covered the same ground at a later period.

**Andre, Eugene.** A Naturalist in the Guianas. With pref. ; by Dr. J. S. Keltie. 1904.

Exploration during 1897-98, and 1900, of the Caura river, a tributary of the Orinoco, rising in the Sierra Pecarainia, a chain of mountains forming the Northern boundary of Brazil. The object was to study the plant and animal life of the great Venezuelan forests. The author in his second and principal journey was shipwrecked in the Arichi rapids, and out of a party of fourteen, only eight men reached a settlement, the others dying of starvation.

44. *History*.—Indicate period covered, where this is not clear from the main entry. Note treatment : Narrative, philosophical, political, biographic ; Popular ; learned ; abundance or otherwise of references ; Founded on original authorities and documents and extended by these means, or a mere recapitulation ; Chapters on literature ; developments of arts, and similar special features. Book of facts or of views and opinions.

45. *Biography*.—The biographical entry is in two parts. The first part sets out very briefly the biographee's title to fame ; the second is bibliographical and deals with the book. The appearance of the full entry is as follows :

FLOWER, Sir W. H., (1831-99). *Physician and Scientist*.

He became Conservator of the Hunterian Museum, and in 1884, Director of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. His chief title to fame consists in his arrangement of the Great Hall of the Natural History Museum to illustrate the evolutionary order of nature, " which has been copied in every leading zoological museum in Europe and in the United States."

FLOWER, Sir W. H., (1831-99). *Physician and Scientist*.

**Cornish, C. J.** A Personal Memoir. 5 *por.* 1904.

Bibliography of Fowler's writings.

The biographical note should not be a description full of dates, but should be merely an indication of the things which make the subject's individuality and interest for the world.

46. *Fiction*.—Except in foreign, translated, and important novels, the annotation of prose fiction should be of the slightest. In the case of epoch making novels, such as Richardson's "Pamela," the position of the book in literature should be indicated. Otherwise the note should be limited to an indication of the locality in which the action takes place ; the character of the story—detective, sea-story, supernatural, etc. when this is not indicated by the title ; in historical novels, give the period, and mention any important historical events and persons dealt with.

47. *Composite Books*.—Collections of essays should be set out, if of sufficient importance, and always where there are fewer than ten essays. Books of composite authorship should be set out, except when the contributions are very short.

48. *Juvenile Books*.—A whole article might be devoted to this part of the question. The current method of treating the book for boys and girls in the same way as that for the adult is to our minds absurd.

The note for the juvenile book should be such as the child can understand. Consider, for example :

**Long, W. J.** A Little Brother to the Bear.

Submits that intelligence rather than instinct guides the [conduct of animals.

This is clearly *not* addressed to the child, but would answer admirably for a grown-up. Suppose the book be annotated thus instead :

The author tries to show that animals are able to think about what they are doing.

This is not a model note, but it illustrates the kind of thing that is required.

49. *Other considerations* to be noted are :

The presence of bibliographies ; lists of authorities ; glossaries ; chronologies ; and special indexes, if not included in the main entry.

Appendices of importance should be noted.

Books of serial publication should be noted as "*In progress.*"

Sequels should be indicated.

50. *Editing.*—Where the subject demands it, the editor's qualifications should be noted. Note the special methods of the editor ; collating, new and alternative readings ; passages not in other editions.

51. It will be seen from the above considerations that many like particulars are required from almost every type of book. We are conscious that any effort to indicate every point the annotator should notice must be a failure, unless many more examples are given than our space allows. From these notes, however, the reader may form some idea of the necessities of annotative work. We hope at some future time to return to, and do more justice to, this important subject.

52. Before we leave the subject of annotation we may urge one or two considerations. Annotation is meant to lay before the enquirer the character and scope of a book. Everything included in the note should therefore be to that end, and all extraneous matter rigorously excluded. It must be remembered that notes are not the place to parade literary accomplishments, although good notes require literary skill. Further, the note should be made attractive. It should be in smaller type than the rest of the entry, but the type should not be too microscopic. Italic headings to the various parts of the note, also, though excellent in theory are more irritating than useful in practice ; and abbreviations should be used sparingly, as few things are more exasperating to the general reader.

Our next chapter will deal with reading lists.

(*To be continued.*)



## THE PUBLIC (S)NEWSROOM.

## A LAMENT.

*Taken down (at a safe distance) from the lips of "Tired Timothy," by  
THOMAS KUTZ.*

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THE annual conference of the Library Association, held this year at Cambridge, revealed the fact that expert opinion was divided as to the desirability of the newsroom as an adjunct to the Public Library.

One borough—to wit, Sunderland—has gone so far as to dispense with the newsroom, and it is rumoured that before long other authorities may follow suit. Should such a lamentable state of things come to pass, perhaps the portion of the community who will feel it most keenly will be that of the "resting" class, and it is in the interests of justice and charity and with the desire to soften the hard hearts of the would-be abolitionists, that we give the opinion of Tired Timothy.

"Wot! Do away with newsrooms! There's 'uman gratitude. After what me and my pals 'ave done for them institootions. Why, if it wasn't fer us they'd 'ave 'ad ter put up their shutters long ago. Ain't we stuck to 'em through thick and thin; going there at nine in the mornin' before some of yer so-called respectable people are up, and stayin' there till ten at night, only goin' out ter cadge a bit o' grub and a little somethin' to wash it down. Wot der people pay rates for if it ain't to pervide light literatoor fer us 'ard-workin' gents, and it is 'ard work I can tell yer, trying ter keep awake and pertend ter read.

Mark yer, I don't mean ter say that newsrooms is all that they should be. There's heaps o' space fer improvement. Some of them libarians seem ter think that literatoor is everythin'. You come in 'ungry on a cold mornin' and feed on patent food advertisments; it ain't very fillin'. Why can't they pervide 'ot corfee and somethin' to eat, like that there Church Army. Then agen, I don't think as how they do their dooty from a sanitory p'int o' view. I ain't very perticuler, but I will say sometimes them newsrooms smell 'orrid. A little bit o' bacca would improve 'em, but bless yer, the orthorities never think o' passing round pipes and shag. And the chairs ain't as comfertable as they might be. I ought ter 'ave been a councillor, and don't yer forgit it.

One great drorback ter the newsroom is the huppishness of the starf. You'd think by the airs that some of 'em put on, that they paid us instead of versy visa. Only t'other day I was sittin' readin' the "Labourers' Friend," and chewing it over with me eyes shut, when up comes one of the hofficials and says ter me: "Hi! get out o' that," and nothin' must do but that I 'ad ter go out inter the street, and it a raining cats and dawgs. There's gratitude for yer. Where would some o' them there chaps be if it wasn't fer us. Don't yer common

sense tell yer that they wouldn't 'ave so much ter do, and would git the chuck ; and yet they talk about doin' away with the newsroom !

Would yer believe that only the other day, some 'ard-hearted bloke said that the newsroom ought ter be tacked on ter the Workhouse and not ter the Public Library. I ain't what you'd call vicious, but when I 'ear talk like this I naterally git a bit excited, and I can tell them libarians this much, that if the newsrooms is shut up, I'll go and study the "Hencyclopædia" in the Reference Library. Do away with newsrooms ! Ugh ! Its enough ter drive one ter work.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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IN the August *Library Journal* a number of important American libraries describe the ways they are availing themselves of the co-operation of such allied agencies as educational associations, local clubs, philanthropic bodies, etc. The information is given in response to a number of questions addressed to them by the *Journal*, the Editor of which comes to this conclusion: Taken as a whole, it is evident that the fourteen libraries reporting—which are fairly representative of the larger city libraries of the country—are allied more or less closely with many diverse agencies for educational, civic, and philanthropic work. It is also evident that in general this alliance has not been a matter of systematic development, but, like Topsy, has "just growed," and that it has not yet reached a full measure of effectiveness. It is impossible here to summarise the replies, but they are well worth careful consideration. Mr. A. E. Bostwick contributes an interesting note on the preparation of a card catalogue for the use of blind readers. As many English libraries are developing this section of the library, it may be as well to reap the benefit of his experience. It appears that the persons using it have complained that it reads backwards. This is accounted for in the following way:—The cards are written in the usual way with the kleidograph, so that if they were placed in the tray facing the user they would read from left to right. But in this position, although plainly visible to one who can see, they cannot be handled properly by the blind. It has therefore been necessary to file them facing away from the user, in which position they are easily read, but appear to the reader as would a printed card held up to the light with its back toward a reader who has the use of his eyes. The plan that is most successful is to print the card with the rod-hole uppermost, and file it away with its face from the user. The fingers then naturally fall over the edge of the card, and beginning at the lower right-hand corner read upward, just as a seeing reader would do if he looked down upon the card over its edge.

The September *Library Association Record* opens with the first part, expanded and revised—the second part is withdrawn—of Mr. E. A. Savage's paper on the Municipal Library's Most Expensive and Least Useful Department. Under this title, Mr. Savage makes an attack upon the Reference Library, which, he contends, does not show sufficient usage to justify its existence. His theory of the existence of the Reference Department is interesting:—"When Ewart, Edwards, and Brotherton fought for town libraries they took as their models the British Museum, and libraries like the British Museum. With the important exception of providing facilities for home reading, the Manchester libraries were modelled upon the British Museum. From the very first we have been serenely content to follow this model; the ideas of the research library have been the ideas of the municipal library, the principles of the research library have been the principles of the town library; and only in details may differences be observed." He comes to the following conclusion:—"The reference library should only contain ready-reference, bulky, rare, and (if bought) very expensive books. It is my opinion that there would be scarcely any appreciable diminution in its use were such limits to be imposed. Its popular part is formed of ready-reference books, which are seldom up to date and so good as they ought to be, because the book-money is spent on publications which are most expensive and least useful. If this section were strengthened and kept up to date, the consequent increase in use would do much to offset any loss of issue resulting from the limitation of the scope and size of the collection. Moreover, the transference of many books now in the reference collection to the lending department, and the diverting of some of the money spent on costly works to the purchase of good non-fictional books for lending, would lead to a very considerable increase of home-reading." A rapid examination of the principal schemes of classification, based largely upon Mr. J. D. Brown's *Manual*, is made by Mr. Basil Anderton under the title of Books brought into Relation with One Another and made Operative. He advances a plea for the use of a common system by libraries in order that the contents of one library might be compared with the contents of other libraries, and that the poverty of one library in any given section might be supplemented by using the wealth of another. The result of his examination is that he finds the Dewey Decimal Classification answers most of his requirements, and this is in consequence the system he recommends.

In the September *Library Assistant*, under the somewhat mysterious title of "Things we may Expect," Mr. W. C. B. Sayers describes a few methods he has discovered in American library reports. They are mostly things we may not expect. The article is chiefly devoted to work with children, and is spotted with such aphoristic phrases as: "American librarianship is suffering from over-emphasis of the trivial." Mr. H. W. Checketts gives an interesting history of the relations between Ruskin and Mr. George Allen in an article entitled "A Famous Experiment in Bookselling." Mr. H. G. Sureties has compiled a paper on the "Display and Filing of Periodicals." The title-page and index to volume IV. are included in this number.



The July *Literary Collector* (the first part of volume X.) contains a long and very interesting description of "Some Maine Collectors and their Books," by Mr. S. L. Boardman. He briefly examines each collection, and shows to what a large extent the libraries of the world are indebted to the private collector. Mr. Arnold Lethwidge contributes a short paper on Edgar Allen Poe's first book—"Tamerlane"—and describes the various editions. A facsimile of the title-page of the first edition is given.



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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### REPORTS.

**Birmingham** (10 branches), forty-third report, 1904-5. Stock 297,468 volumes; volumes issued 2,383,644 (lending 1,037,962, reference 380,682, open shelves 965,000); expenditure £17,942. A new fire-proof strong room has been constructed in the basement for the storage of the more valuable reference books. The Committee have also further provided for the safety of the Central Libraries by having the Pearson fire alarm installed there. A number of thermostats are placed in various parts of the building, and if at any time a fire should break out, a bell is immediately sounded in the building itself by the thermostat nearest to the fire, and a bell is also rung automatically in the chief fire station at the same time, while an indicator board in the hall shows the room where the fire is. By these means the fire brigade would be on the scene within two or three minutes. Want of room is again complained of.

**Bromley**, ninth report, 1903-05. Stock 11,029 volumes; borrowers 2,650; volumes issued 70,874 (lending 68,493, reference 2,381); expenditure £846. The most signal event was the promise of £7,500 for a new building from Dr. Carnegie. The new building is now in course of erection. It has been decided, when the library is removed to its new premises, to install the open access system, to classify the books on a close scheme, and to provide a complete MS. catalogue. An annotated list of recent additions, and several special lists, have been published. A small branch has been opened with a deposit collection of 500 volumes, and a system of interchange with the central. A system of school libraries, held jointly with the Education Committee, has been established in the elementary schools of the Borough.

**Glasgow**: Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, 114th report, 1904-05. Subscribers 901; volumes issued 122,936 (lending 56,993; reference 65,943). The new arrangements for housing the publications of the Patent Office, noted last year, has resulted in a largely increased

use. The report contains Professor Henry Jones's address on "The library as a maker of character," and a list of the most important additions during the year.

**Hanley**, eighteenth report, 1904-05. Stock 15,892 volumes; borrowers 2,275; volumes issued 107,092 (lending 67,238; reference 14,853; boys' room 25,001). The library has again co-operated with the University Extension authorities by preparing lists of books and making the books available. A circular of information about the library has been distributed from house to house throughout the Borough, and an annotated list of books dealing with the pottery industry was circulated among the manufactories. The sixth supplementary catalogue of the lending department is appended.

**Kristiania**: Deichmanske Bibliothek, aarsberetning, 1904. Stock 75,931 volumes; volumes issued 446,067; daily average 1,467. The issues again show a considerable increase over the previous year, thus proving that the phenomenal development of the library during the last six years is perfectly sound. An annotated catalogue of "Historisk Literatur" has been published. There is a short note on M. Haakon Nyhuus' visit to St. Louis.

**Leeds**: Institute of Science, Art and Literature, report, 1904-05. Subscribers 2,359; volumes issued 48,221. The year has again been one of continued progress. The rule allowing subscribers to bespeak books has been much appreciated.

**Middlesbrough**, statistical tables, 1904-05. Stock 26,183 volumes; volumes issued 143,007 (lending 107,826; reference 13,982; school libraries 21,200). An anonymous donation of 14,000 volumes, known as the "K" library, has been received. The school library has been largely used, and the Education Committee has promised its assistance towards its adequate equipment.

**Newark, U.S.**, sixteenth report, 1904. Stock 99,718 volumes; borrowers 20,737; volumes issued 465,674; expenditure \$59,155. "The slight, though gratifying, increase for last year indicates that we have reached a point where it is difficult to add rapidly to our circulation with our present appliances. Delivery stations do not grow in favour. It is very difficult to keep them in satisfactory running order. If we had a full printed catalogue of the library to date, and could issue each year a full list in one alphabet of the year's additions, we could do more with delivery stations. To compile and print these catalogues would cost more than to equip and run a small branch. It is better to take books to the people than to try and sell them catalogues." An indication of American advertising energy is given in the following paragraph: "Last year there appeared in the newspapers of the city about 205 different articles bearing directly upon or indirectly upon the work of the library. Of these 130 were prepared by members of the staff." Ten formal meetings have been held by Mr. Dana, the Librarian, with the staff, and among the topics discussed have been classification,

English and French libraries, wood engraving, and Japanese prints and paintings. A large number of library visits have been made by various institutions and schools. A number of illustrations and plans are included in the report.

**Nottingham**, report, 1904-05. Stock 113,357 volumes; volumes issued 398,514; daily average 1,626. Since the last report seven catalogues have been issued. The courses of half-hour talks have been successfully continued.

**Richmond**, twenty-fourth report, 1904-05. Stock 32,066 volumes; borrowers 3,366; volumes issued 96,167 (lending 86,013; reference 6,448); expenditure £1,166. A portion of land adjoining the library has been acquired, and is to be utilized in extending the library premises. The building has been entirely redecorated.

**Stoke Newington**, report, 1904-05. Stock 23,962 volumes; borrowers 4,370; volumes issued 143,232; expenditure £2,236. The old library building was closed on 7th May, 1904, for re-arrangement and renovation, and the extended building was opened 11th June, 1904. The funds for the extension were supplied by Dr. Carnegie. The new building contains a large lecture hall, and a series of very successful lectures has been given. During the winter the chief and sub-librarian have held weekly classes with the junior members of the staff for the purpose of giving them instruction and preparing them for the classes of the Library Association.

**Tynemouth**, thirty-fifth report, 1904-05. Stock 27,958 volumes; borrowers 4,144; volumes issued 105,322; daily average 362; expenditure £948. The most important event of the year was the inauguration of the Edington collection of engravings. The greater part of the collection consists of engravings after Turner, and these have been mounted and bound in five folio volumes.

**Waterloo-with-Seaforth**, seventh report, 1904-05. Stock 8,966 volumes; borrowers 1,891; volumes issued 64,070 (lending 60,197; reference 3,873); expenditure £508. The library has assisted in the University Extension lectures by preparing a list and making books available. Great need is felt of a boys' reading room. At present, "in order to make way for adult readers, young boys have to vacate the room after 7 p.m."

**Willesden**: Kilburn Library, twelfth report, 1904-05. Stock 11,267 volumes; borrowers 8,029; volumes issued 85,874 (lending 84,076; reference 1,798); expenditure £977. Extra or student's tickets have been issued. A sensible reversion of the usual practice of libraries has been made: the committee decided to have "a selection of books in the reference department, that were not greatly in demand there, transferred to the lending library; 104 volumes were accordingly selected, and have been put in circulation. The books comprise many expensive works of science, history, classics, &c., and a good collection of London topographical works."

## CATALOGUES.

**Brighton Public Library.** Victoria Lending Library. Class List of General Works, Philosophy, Religion and Sociology. 241 pp. 8vo. 1905. Price 6d.

The final portion of the classified catalogue of the lending department. It comprises all the features already noted in previous portions. It is a catalogue well worth having for its systematic and lucid arrangement.

**Handsworth Public Libraries.** List of Recent Additions to the Central Library. 24 pp. 8vo. 1905.

A very good non-critically annotated list, arranged under main headings. The annotations, though rather uneven in quality, and standing in need of the blue pencil, are much above the average.

**Wigan Public Library.** Books and Pamphlets relating to Education preserved in the Reference Department: specially printed for the use of School Authorities and others interested in Education in the County Borough of Wigan. 38 pp. 12mo. 1905.

A fairly full list arranged under authors' names. No annotations.

## BULLETINS.

**Cardiff Public Library.** Bibliography of Wales. May, 1905. The first appearance of this Bibliography since the library's Journal ceased to exist. It is now a separate publication, to be issued quarterly at a subscription of 1s per annum, post free. This part contains all books issued during the last half year.

**Columbia Public Library.** Books on Gardening: a brief annotated list prepared in the interest of the School Gardens and the work of the City Gardens Association. 8 pp.

Bird Books: a brief annotated list of books recommended by the Audobon Society of the District of Columbia. 8 pp.

Summer Travel: a selected list of books with occasional annotations. 20 pp.

These form "Reference Lists" 1-3 of the Columbia Library. They are nicely produced and of handy size. The annotations are an improvement on the usual American product in being informative rather than merely critical.



Note if experimental or theoretical merely, as in the case of chemistry ; What new facts are produced ; instance special knowledge required, *e.g.*,

**Ball, Sir Robert.** Story of the Heavens,

A knowledge of mathematics is necessary.

If the author has written previously on the subject indicate his modifications or extensions of previous theories.

39. *Mathematical Science*.—Books under this head call for little remark beyond the relative difficulty of the book. In arithmetic, for example, the use of special formulæ—algebraic or other—must be noted. Special forms of diagrams, illustrative tables ; examples and answers ; method ; *e.g.*,

**Cunnington, Susan.** Story of Arithmetic.

A Study of Arithmetic by the historical method. Questions and answers.

40. *Useful Arts*.—Note if technical, popular, advanced or elementary. Note particularly: The place of the book in regard to other books on the subject. This is important as this heading embraces such progressive arts as medicine, electricity and the mechanical trades. Diagrams and illustrations form a necessary feature of these works, and should be explained with some degree of fulness.

41. *Fine Arts*.—Indicate whether criticism, æsthetics, practical ; elementary or advanced ; note the place of the work if not of recent date. For example, books on painting become superseded from the point of view of technique, but the illustrations still retain value.

42. *Poetry and Belles Lettres*.—The annotation should consist of a note on the historical place of the book. In drama or epic poetry a brief note on the argument is advisable. The editing is often an important point, *e.g.*,

**Pope, Alexander.** Poetical Works. Ed. A. W. Ward ; with notes and intro. memoir.

Pope was born in London in 1688, and died in 1744. He was the dominant poet of the 18th century, and "within certain narrow but impregnable limits one of the greatest masters of poetic form the world has ever seen, and a considerable, though sometimes over-rated satirist."—*Saintsbury: Short Hist. of Eng. Lit.* This ed. contains the author's prefaces, and is very fully annotated.

If a reprint, show the deviations from other editions ; special notes and explanations, etc.

43. *Travel or Description*.—Note if works of exploration, scientific travels, or globe-trotting ; indicate period ; course of the journey or voyage ; object of journey ; special methods of travel—by "canoe," "balloon," etc. ; results, *i.e.*, ascent of virgin peaks, new territories explored, and new observations on natural features. Show the relation of book to other subjects, for example, the results of Sir Harry Johnston's discoveries on zoology, etc. Give the date of the

journey. In older travels, note what books have superseded them, or covered the same ground at a later period.

**Andre, Eugene.** A Naturalist in the Guianas. With pref. ; by Dr. J. S. Keltie. 1904.

Exploration during 1897-98, and 1900, of the Caura river, a tributary of the Orinoco, rising in the Sierra Pecarainia, a chain of mountains forming the Northern boundary of Brazil. The object was to study the plant and animal life of the great Venezuelan forests. The author in his second and principal journey was shipwrecked in the Arichi rapids, and out of a party of fourteen, only eight men reached a settlement, the others dying of starvation.

44. *History*.—Indicate period covered, where this is not clear from the main entry. Note treatment : Narrative, philosophical, political, biographic ; Popular ; learned ; abundance or otherwise of references ; Founded on original authorities and documents and extended by these means, or a mere recapitulation ; Chapters on literature ; developments of arts, and similar special features. Book of facts or of views and opinions.

45. *Biography*.—The biographical entry is in two parts. The first part sets out very briefly the biographee's title to fame ; the second is bibliographical and deals with the book. The appearance of the full entry is as follows :

FLOWER, Sir W. H., (1831-99). *Physician and Scientist*.

He became Conservator of the Hunterian Museum, and in 1884, Director of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. His chief title to fame consists in his arrangement of the Great Hall of the Natural History Museum to illustrate the evolutionary order of nature, "which has been copied in every leading zoological museum in Europe and in the United States."

FLOWER, Sir W. H., (1831-99). *Physician and Scientist*.

**Cornish, C. J.** A Personal Memoir. 5 *por.* 1904.

Bibliography of Fowler's writings.

The biographical note should not be a description full of dates, but should be merely an indication of the things which make the subject's individuality and interest for the world.

46. *Fiction*.—Except in foreign, translated, and important novels, the annotation of prose fiction should be of the slightest. In the case of epoch making novels, such as Richardson's "Pamela," the position of the book in literature should be indicated. Otherwise the note should be limited to an indication of the locality in which the action takes place ; the character of the story—detective, sea-story, supernatural, etc. when this is not indicated by the title ; in historical novels, give the period, and mention any important historical events and persons dealt with.

47. *Composite Books*.—Collections of essays should be set out, if of sufficient importance, and always where there are fewer than ten essays. Books of composite authorship should be set out, except when the contributions are very short.

48. *Juvenile Books*.—A whole article might be devoted to this part of the question. The current method of treating the book for boys and girls in the same way as that for the adult is to our minds absurd.

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**Wem.**—A Public Library has been erected to perpetuate the memory of John Morgan and Phoebe Ann, his wife. Mr. Morgan was an alderman of Oldham, but retained his affection for Wem, his birthplace, which has now been enriched by the bequest of Mrs. Morgan establishing the "Morgan Library" Mr. Lister is the librarian.

**Willesden.**—The story of the creation of the four Public Libraries which this modern township possesses is well told in Mr. Biddiscombe's *Local Guide*. Willesden, not long since an essentially rural suburb of the great metropolis, is now a town in itself, its three hamlets, once separated by fields and old-time lanes, have been united, and in place of rural beauty we see miles of streets for the most part lacking any features of interest. Let us hope that Willesden's libraries may do something towards providing "sweetness and light" to the inhabitants.

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**Miss Lydia M. Bartlett**, Assistant Librarian of the Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Library, has been appointed first Librarian of the Crosby Public Library.

**Mr. and Mrs. Borrajo**, have our hearty congratulations on the recent celebration of their silver wedding. Mr. Borrajo is well known as the first assistant librarian at London's Guildhall.

**Mr. S. E. Harrison**, who has for some years been an assistant in the Birmingham Reference Library, has received the appointment of chief assistant to the Cheltenham Public Library.

**Miss. Maud M. Mellor**, of Blackpool, has received the appointment of librarian of the new Public Library at Chadderton.

**Mr. H. R. W. Peters**, senior assistant Battersea Central Library, has been appointed Librarian-in-charge to the Manor House Public Library, Lewisham, in succession to Mr. W. E. Barnes, now chief librarian of Greenwich.

**Sir Richard Holmes**, Librarian at Windsor Castle, intends retiring from the position he has held since 1870. Mr. John Fortescue is to succeed to the office.



## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Behn** (Aphra—1689). Novels. With an introduction by Ernest A. Baker. London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xxviii + 380. Price 6s. net.

Contents—The Royal Slave (Oroonoko); The Fair Jilt; The Nun; Agnes de Castro; The Lover's Watch; The Case for the watch; The Lady's looking-glass to dress herself by; The Lucky mistake; The Court of the King of Bantam; The Adventure of the black lady.

This excellent reprint of Mrs. Behn's novels, contains practically everything which the student of literature or general reader requires, and it should find a place in every public library which aims at maintaining completeness in the domain of historical fiction.

**Bray** (S. E.) School organization. London: W. B. Clive, 1905. 8°, 7", pp. xii + 222. Price 2s.

Classes, School departments, District administration, Discipline, School records and registration, School premises.

A useful elementary manual of educational practice, giving details of modern methods of school management, and many quotations from American sources.

**Buckmaster** (Martin A.). A Descriptive handbook of architecture. London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd., [1905] n. d. 8°, 8½", pp. xvi + 188, *illust.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

An elementary handbook on early, classic, Romanesque, Renaissance; and other styles of architecture, with an illustrated glossary, a classification, and a brief bibliography.

A concise, but informative and well illustrated handbook, which is adapted for general readers.

**Campbell** (David) A First history of English literature. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii + 224. Price 1s. 6d.

A school manual, giving the chief facts and authors in a clear and simple form, with tables, notes and explanations of words and phrases, and a series of suggestions for essays and exercises.

**Carlile** (John C.). *The Story of the English Baptists.* London: Jas. Clarke & Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. 320, *ports., illust.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A popular history from the foundation of the body to the present time, including notices of the Continental Anabaptists, the General Baptists, the Particular Baptists, and other offshoots.

A very interesting account of an important church, which should be placed in every Public Library because it is the only available continuous history in existence.

**Carroll** (John). *Drawing from models and objects, a handbook for teachers and students in training.* London: Burns & Oates, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7¼", pp. x. + 108, *illust.* Price 2s. 6d.

A very useful and suggestive manual for teachers, in which sane and practical instructions for model-drawing are clearly set forth. There are plenty of small-scale but clear illustrations, and these are arranged in progressive order of difficulty.

**Dealey** (James Q.) and Lester F. **Ward**. *A Text-book of Sociology.* New York: The Macmillan Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xxvi. + 326. *Bibliography.* Price 6s. net.

An elementary manual of the science of sociology based upon the classification of Comte, with references to other works on the subject, and a bibliography.

A useful introduction to an extensive and difficult subject, in which an attempt is made, by means of a logical system of classifying the relative subject-matter, to present a clear view of the whole field of modern sociology.

**The Homeland Handbooks.** Dutt (W. A.). *King's Lynn (Norfolk) with its surroundings.* London: Homeland Association, Ltd. 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. 100, *illust., map, bibliography.* Price 1s. net.

Hamilton (T. F. W.) and W. Hodgson. *Reigate and Redhill, with their surroundings.* London: Homeland Association, Ltd., 1905. *2nd edit.* 8°, 7½", pp. 100, *illust., map.* Price 1s. net.

Two excellent additions to this well-known series of dainty, well-illustrated, and well-written guide-books.

**Hughes** (R. E.). *School training.* London: W. B. Clive, 1905. 8°, 7", pp. x. + 118. Price 2s.

A general text-book on the methods of education, forming an introduction and companion to Bray's "School Organization," above noted. Treats of education from the moral, physical, and psychological sides. In one respect Mr. Hughes' work is disappointing. Like other pedagogues he fails to show the paramount importance of the Book in education as well as in life, and his remarks on reading, etc., merely tend to show books as auxiliaries to verbal teaching, whereas, they *are* education, and the sole records of learning in every form.

**Kempis** (Thomas à). Of the Imitation of Christ, with the Book of the Sacrament. Trans. by John Payne from the Latin of Thomas à Kempis. London: George Newnes, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ ", pp. xii. + 316. Price 2s.

A very handy edition of this classic, forming one of Newnes' Devotional Series.

**Maine** (Sir Henry S.). Ancient law: its connection with the early history of society and its relation to modern ideas. London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905] n.d. 8°, 6", pp. viii. + 344. Price 1s. net.

A neat reprint of this standard work, forming part of the "New Universal Library." Sir Henry Maine's "Ancient law," originally issued in 1861, is universally recognized as a classic in its own department of literature.

**Morgan** (Henry J.) and Lawrence J. **Burpee**. Canadian life in town and country. London: George Newnes, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. xii. + 268, *illust.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A volume of the "Our Empire" series, devoted to a full exposition of the people, politics, trade, literature, Indians, education, and literature of present-day Canada.

This is a careful and well-written account of our Canadian cousins and their country, for the accuracy of which the name of Mr. Burpee, a rising Canadian librarian, is an excellent guarantee.

**Peddie** (Robert A.). Printing at Brescia in the Fifteenth Century. A list of the issues. London: Williams & Norgate, 1905. 8°, 11", pp. 30. Price 5s.

A list of the printers of Brescia, in Lombardy, with a catalogue of their works, references to the authorities in which their productions are recorded, and a full author and title index; arranged in chronological order from 1473 to 1494.

Mr. Peddie has here produced a very interesting work on Italian incunabula, which to a considerable extent points out the way in which a complete catalogue of the 15th century printing must be ultimately produced. Some bibliographers have adopted the printer himself as the unit for cataloguing and recording, and many valuable monographs exist as a result. But we are rather disposed to regard the town as a better unit from which to work so as to build up a complete national bibliography on the lines of Proctor's "Early Printed Books." We trust Mr. Peddie will follow up this promising effort with monographs on some other important centres of printing, and, if so, we trust he will introduce a few facsimiles of different type, as there is nothing more instructive than such illustrative aids.

**Procter** (Adelaide A., 1825-64). Complete works. With an introduction by Charles Dickens. London: George Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. xxviii. + 472, *part.* Price 5s.  
*Contains*—Legends and lyrics, 1858-60. A Chaplet of verses, 1862.

A complete edition of the poems and songs of Miss Procter has long been wanted, and this handsome book is welcome. It contains all the songs, so extensively and favourably known by their musical settings, such as "A Lost Chord," "The Requital," etc., and the longer lyrical and devotional pieces which originally appeared in the two collections noted above.

**Reich** (Emil). Select documents illustrating mediæval and modern history. London: P. S. King & Son, 1905. 8°, 8¾", pp. xvi. + 794. Price 21s. net.

A collection of the principal Acts, treaties, edicts, and other diplomatic and public documents connected with the history of Europe in the Middle Ages and modern Europe to 1871, and America to 1865.

This important series of texts of epoch-making public documents should find a place in every Public Library. It is simply invaluable to students of history and politics, including as it does, the original texts, carefully edited, of the leading statutes, bulls, and public proclamations concerning mediæval Europe, the Holy Roman Empire, France, England, Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Turkey, the United States, etc. Several somewhat similar collections of historical documents have been published before, but not, we think, in such a handy form, or with such an international complexion. Dr. Reich has added valuable explanatory notes to most of the chief documents, and in some cases the translations. Perhaps in a new edition Dr. Reich will supply translations in every case to a thoroughly sound and valuable piece of work.

**Sharpe** (Samuel). The History of Egypt from the earliest times till the conquest by the Arabs, A.D. 640. 6th edit. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7½", 2 v., *illust., maps*. Price 7s.

A reprint in Bohn's Library of a work first published in 1846. Covers most of the important points in ancient Egyptian history, archæology, and mythology.

Some revisions have been made in this standard history of ancient Egypt, which retains all the original illustrations and transcripts.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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SIR,—Referring to the notice under "Dewsbury," in the *Library World* for September, permit me to say that I am the councillor referred to, and that you appear to have been misinformed. I have not, either in a brief speech I made at a meeting of the Town Council, or in letters I wrote replying to Mr. Smith's published statements, expressed myself strongly, or otherwise, "against the classification of certain additions to the collection of books in the Public Library."

What I did complain of was the librarian's classification of works under *Arts and Sciences* in the lists of books submitted to the Library

## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

**Accrington.**—*The Building News* of September 15th contained an illustration and plan of the new Public Library. Mr. W. J. Newton, Borough Engineer, the architect, has adopted a classic style, the building being carried out in stone. The newsroom and lending library are on the ground floor, the reference room, with accommodation for over 11,000 books, is on the first floor. A lecture room is also provided on this floor. We see the cost is estimated at £8,000, that is £1,000 more than Dr. Carnegie's gift mentioned in our July issue.

**Benwell.**—Mr. Vernon Hodge's design for the Public Library is published in *The Building News*, September 29th. The public rooms are all arranged on the ground floor.

**Birkdale.**—The new Public Library is to be opened at the end of this month, when it is possible that the Earl of Crawford will perform the ceremony. Mr. E. Wood, the Librarian, is engaged in classifying the books already in his charge, and is preparing a catalogue.

**Blackpool.**—The librarian having reported that not more than five per cent. of the people ever looked at betting news, it was resolved not to adopt the plan of blacking out such information from the newspapers.

**Bo'ness.**—The Public Library was opened on September 9th, but without ceremony, owing to the sudden death of the Rev. W. Hunter, the chairman of the committee. We understand that Mr. James Moir, the Librarian, has, with commendable industry, already compiled a catalogue of the books, and classified and arranged them.

**Bristol.**—*The Builder* recently gave good illustrations of the Central Reference Library and its adjuncts :—

“The principal feature of the building is the large reference room on the first floor, extending along the whole front to Deanery Road.

The Bristol Room, for the reception of old MSS., etc., adjoins the reference room, and will be fitted with the old oak fittings (including a carved fireplace by Grinling Gibbons) from the old King Street Library.

The librarian's offices and workrooms are on this floor, and face towards Lower College Green. On the ground floor are the news and magazine rooms and the lending department.

The entrance hall has a vaulted ceiling, covered with sky-blue glass mosaic. The walls and piers are lined with marbles, Greek cipollino being used for the dado, Irish green for capping, and grande antique for skirting. The floors are covered with slabs of Piastraccia marble. The basement contains newspaper room, specification of patents room, and book store, &c.”

Mr. H. Percy Adams has designed the building to harmonize with the adjacent old work of the abbey.

**Bromley, Kent.**—Arrangements have been made whereby an applicant for a ticket may borrow a book immediately on the delivery of the application form properly filled in.

**Burntisland.**—Mr. W. Williamson, of Kirkcaldy, is the architect selected for the Public Library, subject to Dr. Carnegie's approval of the plans. Mr. James Shepherd, Rossend Castle, generously presented a site for the building.

**Castleton Moor.**—The new Public Library was well illustrated in *The Building News*, August 25th, from Mr. Jesse Horsfall's design.

**Cirencester.**—On September 21st Mr. D. G. Bingham's noble gift to his native town was opened. The gift consists of a library building, books for lending and reference, a gymnasium, lecture hall, smoking room, etc. We hope to refer to this subject more fully next month.

**Clitheroe.**—It is hoped that Lord Shuttleworth will open the Public Library on the 21st of this month, and that Dr. R. Garnett, of the British Museum, will assist in the opening ceremony. The building, which was designed by Messrs. Butterworth & Duncan, of Rochdale, is likely to prove an ornament to the town.

**Cork.**—On September 12th, the new Public Library, erected through Dr. Carnegie's generosity, was formally opened by the Lord Mayor.

**East Ham.**—The new Public Library was illustrated in *The Surveyor*, August 25th. A plan of the interior arrangements was also provided. Mr. A. H. Campbell, the Borough Engineer, was the architect employed. Dr. Carnegie's gift has been slightly overstepped, £5,500 having been spent in all. The building is open on three sides, and Mr. Campbell has wisely taken advantage of this to provide plentiful supplies of light and air.

**Glasgow : Maryhill.**—The new Public Library, opened on September 8th, was the subject of an illustration in the *Evening News*. Mr. James Rhind, of Hope Street, Glasgow, the architect, has adopted a classic style for the building which seems suitable to its position in the street.

**Glenalmond, N.B.**—Mr. A. G. Heiton, of Perth, has designed a suitable building for the Memorial Library, recently opened in memory of those who fell in the South African war. The library is well housed on the first floor, measuring 57ft. by 22ft., and is 18ft. in height.

**Greenock.**—Mr. Robert Miller, living at Bayswater Hill, London, has presented the Watt Library with about 1,000 volumes, in recollection of early days at Greenock.

**Grimsbly.**—Mr. D. H. Geddie, the Librarian, has advised the Public Library Committee to expend £40 on furnishing the children's library; to which proposal the committee have agreed.

**Haverfordwest.**—It seems likely that the town will secure Dr. Henry Owen's valuable library if a suitable building is erected. Dr. Owen had promised it to Aberystwyth unless a home for it was found in Pembrokeshire, and we expect that every effort will be made to provide accommodation in Haverfordwest.

**Llanidloes, Mont.**—Mr. David Davies, of Plasdinam, has generously offered to provide a Public Library if the Mayor and Council obtain a site, as doubtless they will.

**London.**—We understand that overtures have been made by the National Telephone Company to the Public Library Authorities of London, on the question of placing public call offices in all the Public Library buildings in the Metropolis. This would undoubtedly be a great convenience to everyone concerned, and we hope this means of intercommunication will soon be realized.

**London: Lewisham.**—*The Architect* of September 1st contains Mr. Albert L. Guy's drawing of the new Sydenham Branch Library. The building is of one floor, and of attractive appearance.

**London: Southwark.**—Mr. Ernest Beels, the Librarian of Christ Church, had a novel duty to perform in giving evidence against a man found hiding behind one of the book presses at 11 p.m. Prisoner said he went there to sleep!

**London: Stepney.**—Some two years ago Mr. Albert Cawthorne, Chief Librarian, was authorized to establish special facilities for blind persons who desired to read in the Public Libraries, and we gather that his efforts have been very successful. *The Daily Express* recently stated:

"That the blind man's library has proved popular may be gauged from the fact that up to the end of August last 8,033 volumes had been issued to readers. Each volume represents about eighty pages of embossed matter, and takes the average reader about twenty-four hours' close application to read . . . New volumes are at present being issued at the rate of 300 a month. There are now over one hundred regular readers, who come from all parts of the East End of London, except Poplar, which has started a similar library with a few dozen books. Some are in fair circumstances, many are very poor. One is a blind clergyman."

Mr. Cawthorne has been strongly supported in his efforts towards the enlightenment of his blind clients by Mr. Kreamer, who is himself without God's greatest blessing—eyesight.

**London: Stepney.**—Special provision is being made for the peculiarly cosmopolitan inhabitants of the district of Whitechapel, and Mr. W. Weare will have in his charge, literature in German, Spanish, Italian, French, Polish, Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish.

**Lurgan (Ireland).**—The Public Library Committee, finding themselves in possession of a fine building erected through Dr. Carnegie's gift, are unable to complete the equipment, and now propose to organize a "Library Saturday" collection, mainly among the artisans and others employed in the local factories.

**Maidstone.**—Mr. J. H. Allchin, the Librarian, reports the receipt of many books of value for the reference library from the subscribers to the Library Auxiliary Fund. This Fund was started over twenty years ago, and has done much to increase the value of the collection in the Public Library. In a future issue we propose to describe this method of augmenting the stores of Municipal Libraries.

**Melrose.**—Dr. Carnegie's offer of £4,000 to a Public Library seems to be unacceptable to the majority of voters on the question, the landward ratepayers having voted solidly against the proposal though adopted by the burgh. This shelves the matter for two years.

**Montrose.**—The Public Library is to be ready on the 19th, when it is hoped that Dr. Carnegie will be present, and that the Right Hon. John Morley will perform the opening ceremony. The building, which has been designed by Mr. Lindsay Grant, of Manchester, will be an ornament to the town. *The Building News*, September 22nd, has a full-page plate and a long description of the arrangements. We note that a lecture-hall is included.

**Mukden.**—It is a far cry from London to Manchuria, but we make no apology for "lifting" Sir Robert Douglas' remarks in *The Times* anent the Imperial Chinese Library.

"When the Russians occupied Mukden with the ostensible object of preserving law and order during the 'Boxer' outbreak, they seized the Imperial Library of that city, containing, as it does, books and MSS. of the greatest literary, historical, and antiquarian interest, more especially to the present Manchu Dynasty in China, with the intention of carrying it off to St. Petersburg. But the Siberian railway being then deeply engaged in transporting men and munitions of war into Manchuria, its destination was diverted to Vladivostok; where, if report speaks truly, it now remains. As the library belongs to the Chinese, and as its contents are to them of the highest possible Imperial value, it would surely be only just and right that it should be now restored to its lawful owners."

**Newcastle.**—We extract the following from the *Newcastle Chronicle*.

"Just a quarter of a century has elapsed since the opening of the Newcastle Public Free Library, that ceremony having been performed on the 13th September, 1880, by Alderman Joseph Cowen, then senior member for the city. The basis of the institution was the old Mechanics' Institution, with which Mr. Cowen himself had for many years been actively associated,

**Northwich.**—At a meeting on September 5th, it was reported that the Public Library premises had been sinking, as have so many other buildings in the district, owing to the subsidence of the ground on which the town is built. It has long appeared to us that such calamities should be treated as of national concern, as, for example, the encroachments of the sea on our coasts should be, for no local rating powers can cope with calamities of such wholesale scope.

**Penarth.**—The new Public Library was opened by Lord Windsor on August 30, when he delivered an admirable speech touching on the uses of light literature. Miss K. Jones, the Librarian, presented Lady Windsor with two books, the first issued from the new library.



**Penzance.**—Some comments adverse to the state of the Public Library, both as to fittings and literary contents, having appeared in the *Cornishman*, Mr. Benn, the Librarian, wisely points to the smallness of income (some £230 per annum) enjoyed by the library committee. We have reason to believe that the best possible use is made of this limited amount.

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**Stirling.**—Mr. McEwan, the librarian of the Public Library, has issued a supplementary catalogue of 600 volumes, which include the additions to the shelves since the institution was opened eighteen months ago.

**Taunton.**—The new Public Library was formally opened on August 24th, and bids fair to be as useful as it is ornamental to the town. Mr. A. E. Baker will have the advantage of working the library under favourable conditions.

**Wem.**—A Public Library has been erected to perpetuate the memory of John Morgan and Phoebe Ann, his wife. Mr. Morgan was an alderman of Oldham, but retained his affection for Wem, his birthplace, which has now been enriched by the bequest of Mrs. Morgan establishing the "Morgan Library" Mr. Lister is the librarian.

**Willesden.**—The story of the creation of the four Public Libraries which this modern township possesses is well told in Mr. Biddiscombe's *Local Guide*. Willesden, not long since an essentially rural suburb of the great metropolis, is now a town in itself, its three hamlets, once separated by fields and old-time lanes, have been united, and in place of rural beauty we see miles of streets for the most part lacking any features of interest. Let us hope that Willesden's libraries may do something towards providing "sweetness and light" to the inhabitants.

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**Miss Lydia M. Bartlett**, Assistant Librarian of the Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Library, has been appointed first Librarian of the Crosby Public Library.

**Mr. and Mrs. Borrajo**, have our hearty congratulations on the recent celebration of their silver wedding. Mr. Borrajo is well known as the first assistant librarian at London's Guildhall.

**Mr. S. E. Harrison**, who has for some years been an assistant in the Birmingham Reference Library, has received the appointment of chief assistant to the Cheltenham Public Library.

**Miss. Maud M. Mellor**, of Blackpool, has received the appointment of librarian of the new Public Library at Chadderton.

**Mr. H. R. W. Peters**, senior assistant Battersea Central Library, has been appointed Librarian-in-charge to the Manor House Public Library, Lewisham, in succession to Mr. W. E. Barnes, now chief librarian of Greenwich.

**Sir Richard Holmes**, Librarian at Windsor Castle, intends retiring from the position he has held since 1870. Mr. John Fortescue is to succeed to the office.

year he obtained three months' leave of absence, which he spent partly in Scotland, and appeared to derive at least temporary benefit from the change. This year, his annual holiday was less successful, and he suffered greatly from over-stimulation of the heart's action, and he returned from Ventnor without staying the intended time. Repeated attacks of his heart trouble ensued, and on Monday, October 9th, at 4.30 in the afternoon, he died at his home in the Fulham Central Library from an attack of angina pectoris. He died in harness; he was preparing for a meeting of his Library Committee on the same evening, and had not appeared seriously indisposed till three o'clock. It was always a matter of difficulty to get him to admit when he was in pain, and his courage and fortitude were such that he frequently exerted himself on occasions when he ought to have rested.

He was buried in Fulham Cemetery on Friday, October 13th, at three o'clock, in presence of a large gathering of Fulham borough councillors, his committee, and officials; the general public (including many readers); and a number of members of council of the Library Association and other librarians. Many beautiful wreaths were sent, including one from the Library Association. Messrs. Tedder and Jast represented the official side of the Library Association; Messrs. Aldred (Southwark), Bond (Woolwich), Burgoyne (Lambeth), Carter (Kingston), Davis (Wandsworth), Hulme (Patent Office), Kettle (Guildhall), and Brown (Islington) the Council. Messrs. Martin (Hammersmith) and Quinn (Chelsea), Mr. Barrett's immediate neighbours; Mr. Burt (Handsworth), the former sub-librarian of Fulham; Messrs. Fortune and Gould, and Mr. Johnston (Hornsey), personal friends; the library staff, and many others were present. In the funeral service, conducted by the Rev. R. W. Gair, a high tribute was paid to the splendid work which Mr. Barrett had accomplished in Fulham, and the impressive and pathetic scene at the graveside will remain for long in the memory of every librarian present.

The portrait which is printed as part of this memorial notice is not so good as some I have seen, but it is the best one extant, and I am indebted for its use to Mr. Councillor J. A. Curtis, chairman of the Fulham Public Libraries Committee. It first appeared, along with some interesting notes by Mr. J. H. Greenwood, a member of the Fulham Libraries Committee, in the *West London and Fulham Times* for Oct. 13th, 1905.

I cannot more appropriately conclude this brief and inadequate notice than by quoting the resolution of sympathy carried by the Borough Council of Fulham, in which the most genuine and authoritative tribute is paid to his worth and valuable public service:—

"The Public Libraries Committee recommended that an expression of the deepest sympathy and condolence of the Council be communicated to the widow and family of the late Mr. Franklin T. Barrett, Borough Librarian, in their sad bereavement. And that, in addition, the Council place on record its appreciation of the value of the services rendered during the past eleven years by the late Mr. Franklin T. Barrett as librarian at the Fulham Libraries. His period

**Carlile** (John C.). *The Story of the English Baptists*. London: Jas. Clarke & Co., 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. 320, *ports.*, *illust.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A popular history from the foundation of the body to the present time, including notices of the Continental Anabaptists, the General Baptists, the Particular Baptists, and other offshoots.

A very interesting account of an important church, which should be placed in every Public Library because it is the only available continuous history in existence.

**Carroll** (John). *Drawing from models and objects, a handbook for teachers and students in training*. London: Burns & Oates, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. x. + 108, *illust.* Price 2s. 6d.

A very useful and suggestive manual for teachers, in which sane and practical instructions for model-drawing are clearly set forth. There are plenty of small-scale but clear illustrations, and these are arranged in progressive order of difficulty.

**Dealey** (James Q.) and Lester F. **Ward**. *A Text-book of Sociology*. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. xxvi. + 326. *Bibliography*. Price 6s. net.

An elementary manual of the science of sociology based upon the classification of Comte, with references to other works on the subject, and a bibliography.

A useful introduction to an extensive and difficult subject, in which an attempt is made, by means of a logical system of classifying the relative subject-matter, to present a clear view of the whole field of modern sociology.

**The Homeland Handbooks**. Dutt (W. A.). *King's Lynn (Norfolk) with its surroundings*. London: Homeland Association, Ltd. 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. 100, *illust.*, *map*, *bibliography*. Price 1s. net.

Hamilton (T. F. W.) and W. Hodgson. *Reigate and Redhill, with their surroundings*. London: Homeland Association, Ltd., 1905. *2nd edit.* 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. 100, *illust.*, *map*. Price 1s. net.

Two excellent additions to this well-known series of dainty, well-illustrated, and well-written guide-books.

**Hughes** (R. E.). *School training*. London: W. B. Clive, 1905. 8°, 7", pp. x. + 118. Price 2s.

A general text-book on the methods of education, forming an introduction and companion to Bray's "School Organization," above noted. Treats of education from the moral, physical, and psychological sides. In one respect Mr. Hughes' work is disappointing. Like other pedagogues he fails to show the paramount importance of the Book in education as well as in life, and his remarks on reading, etc., merely tend to show books as auxiliaries to verbal teaching, whereas, they *are* education, and the sole records of learning in every form.

## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Behn** (Aphra—1689). Novels. With an introduction by Ernest A. Baker. London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xxviii + 380. Price 6s. net.

Contents—The Royal Slave (Oroonoko); The Fair Jilt; The Nun; Agnes de Castro; The Lover's Watch; The Case for the watch; The Lady's looking-glass to dress herself by; The Lucky mistake; The Court of the King of Bantam; The Adventure of the black lady.

This excellent reprint of Mrs. Behn's novels, contains practically everything which the student of literature or general reader requires, and it should find a place in every public library which aims at maintaining completeness in the domain of historical fiction.

**Bray** (S. E.) School organization. London: W. B. Clive, 1905. 8°, 7", pp. xii + 222. Price 2s.

Classes, School departments, District administration, Discipline, School records and registration, School premises.

A useful elementary manual of educational practice, giving details of modern methods of school management, and many quotations from American sources.

**Buckmaster** (Martin A.). A Descriptive handbook of architecture. London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd., [1905] n. d. 8°, 8½", pp. xvi + 188, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

An elementary handbook on early, classic, Romanesque, Renaissance; and other styles of architecture, with an illustrated glossary, a classification, and a brief bibliography.

A concise, but informative and well illustrated handbook, which is adapted for general readers.

**Campbell** (David) A First history of English literature. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii + 224. Price 1s. 6d.

A school manual, giving the chief facts and authors in a clear and simple form, with tables, notes and explanations of words and phrases, and a series of suggestions for essays and exercises.

**Carlile** (John C.). *The Story of the English Baptists.* London: Jas. Clarke & Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. 320, *ports., illust.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A popular history from the foundation of the body to the present time, including notices of the Continental Anabaptists, the General Baptists, the Particular Baptists, and other offshoots.

A very interesting account of an important church, which should be placed in every Public Library because it is the only available continuous history in existence.

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**Kempis** (Thomas à). Of the Imitation of Christ, with the Book of the Sacrament. Trans. by John Payne from the Latin of Thomas à Kempis. London: George Newnes, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ ", pp. xii. + 316. Price 2s.

A very handy edition of this classic, forming one of Newnes' Devotional Series.

**Maine** (Sir Henry S.). Ancient law: its connection with the early history of society and its relation to modern ideas. London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905] n.d. 8°, 6", pp. viii. + 344. Price 1s. net.

A neat reprint of this standard work, forming part of the "New Universal Library." Sir Henry Maine's "Ancient law," originally issued in 1861, is universally recognized as a classic in its own department of literature.

**Morgan** (Henry J.) and Lawrence J. **Burpee**. Canadian life in town and country. London: George Newnes, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. xii. + 268, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A volume of the "Our Empire" series, devoted to a full exposition of the people, politics, trade, literature, Indians, education, and literature of present-day Canada.

This is a careful and well-written account of our Canadian cousins and their country, for the accuracy of which the name of Mr. Burpee, a rising Canadian librarian, is an excellent guarantee.

**Peddie** (Robert A.). Printing at Brescia in the Fifteenth Century. A list of the issues. London: Williams & Norgate, 1905. 8°, 11", pp. 30. Price 5s.

A list of the printers of Brescia, in Lombardy, with a catalogue of their works, references to the authorities in which their productions are recorded, and a full author and title index; arranged in chronological order from 1473 to 1494.

Mr. Peddie has here produced a very interesting work on Italian incunabula, which to a considerable extent points out the way in which a complete catalogue of the 15th century printing must be ultimately produced. Some bibliographers have adopted the printer himself as the unit for cataloguing and recording, and many valuable monographs exist as a result. But we are rather disposed to regard the town as a better unit from which to work so as to build up a complete national bibliography on the lines of Proctor's "Early Printed Books." We trust Mr. Peddie will follow up this promising effort with monographs on some other important centres of printing, and, if so, we trust he will introduce a few facsimiles of different type, as there is nothing more instructive than such illustrative aids.

**Procter** (Adelaide A., 1825-64). Complete works. With an introduction by Charles Dickens. London: George Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. xxviii. + 472, *part.* Price 5s.

*Contains*—Legends and lyrics, 1858-60. A Chaplet of verses, 1862.

A complete edition of the poems and songs of Miss Procter has long been wanted, and this handsome book is welcome. It contains all the songs, so extensively and favourably known by their musical settings, such as "A Lost Chord," "The Requital," etc., and the longer lyrical and devotional pieces which originally appeared in the two collections noted above.

**Reich** (Emil). Select documents illustrating mediæval and modern history. London: P. S. King & Son, 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. xvi. + 794. Price 21s. net.

A collection of the principal Acts, treaties, edicts, and other diplomatic and public documents connected with the history of Europe in the Middle Ages and modern Europe to 1871, and America to 1865.

This important series of texts of epoch-making public documents should find a place in every Public Library. It is simply invaluable to students of history and politics, including as it does, the original texts, carefully edited, of the leading statutes, bulls, and public proclamations concerning mediæval Europe, the Holy Roman Empire, France, England, Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Turkey, the United States, etc. Several somewhat similar collections of historical documents have been published before, but not, we think, in such a handy form, or with such an international complexion. Dr. Reich has added valuable explanatory notes to most of the chief documents, and in some cases the translations. Perhaps in a new edition Dr. Reich will supply translations in every case to a thoroughly sound and valuable piece of work.

**Sharpe** (Samuel). The History of Egypt from the earliest times till the conquest by the Arabs, A.D. 640. 6th edit. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7½", 2 v., *illustr., maps*. Price 7s.

A reprint in Bohn's Library of a work first published in 1846. Covers most of the important points in ancient Egyptian history, archæology, and mythology.

Some revisions have been made in this standard history of ancient Egypt, which retains all the original illustrations and transcripts.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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SIR,—Referring to the notice under "Dewsbury," in the *Library World* for September, permit me to say that I am the councillor referred to, and that you appear to have been misinformed. I have not, either in a brief speech I made at a meeting of the Town Council, or in letters I wrote replying to Mr. Smith's published statements, expressed myself strongly, or otherwise, "against the classification of certain additions to the collection of books in the Public Library."

What I did complain of was the librarian's classification of works under *Arts and Sciences* in the lists of books submitted to the Library



Committee, month by month, for their consideration (I enclose one of the lists for your perusal). His classification embraced under that heading these, among many other misdescribed books: "The Art of Success," "Textile Accounts," "Guide to the Best Fiction," "Medal and the Maid," "The Schoolgirl," "English Sport," "Book of Herbs," "Sports of the World," &c., &c.

I have been a member of Public and semi-Public Libraries for more than sixty years. I was for a long period one of the managers of the Dewsbury Free Library, and I know something of the difficulties attending classification, but no difficulties, surely, stood in the way of the foregoing being properly placed in the list—each classified like the one enclosed—laid, month by month, before the committee of management.

W. W. YATES.

[The list enclosed by Mr. Yates is a very roughly classified "List of books suggested as additions," such as is usually submitted to Library Committees. Such lists never pretend to be exact and scientifically arranged catalogues, and in many libraries it is the practice to submit a mere author-alphabetical list, perhaps in three divisions—Fiction ; Non-Fiction, ordinary ; Non-Fiction, net.—*Ed.*]

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#### "PUBLIC LIBRARIES."

SIR,—Inasmuch as the Public Libraries Act of 1892 (55 and 56 Vict., c. 53) consolidates all former Acts since and including 8 and 9 Vict., c. 43 (1845), and does not repeat that foolish word "Free" (vide 18 and 19 Vict., chapters 40 and 70), and this Act has been since that date (1892), and is now, the ruling guide almost of all "Public Libraries, public museums, schools for science, art galleries, and schools for art," how is it that one can notice during one's travels about the country the name "Free Public Library" attached to such institutions as started their existence since 1892? Do let us have done with this nonsensical word "Free," not only in connection with libraries, etc., but also in matters concerning education, where it is now also too freely used, for the simple reason that in all life, argue in opposition as one may in ignorance, the term cannot really exist, and especially in the lines which are here implied.

*The Public Library, Launceston.*

C. L. HART SMITH.



## FRANKLIN T. BARRETT.

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THE sudden death, at a comparatively early age, of Mr. Franklin Trengrouse Barrett, of the Fulham Public Libraries, removes from the ranks of librarians, one of the most promising, highly-trained, and best-loved of those younger men whose work is making itself so strongly felt in this country. His death came as a severe shock to most of his friends, and particularly to his father, Mr. Francis T. Barrett, the universally-esteemed City Librarian of Glasgow, who was quite unprepared for such a sudden and bitter bereavement. To him, as to Mrs. Franklin Barrett, a lady well-known and much respected by London librarians, I am sure the deepest sympathy of all librarians and other colleagues will go forth. The sad event has already produced

a great many messages of sympathy from many kind friends, and for these, and other efforts of consolation and comfort, the family are deeply grateful.

As one of Franklin Barrett's oldest professional friends, it becomes my sad duty to place on record a few facts and impressions concerning his too brief career. He was born at Birmingham on April 15th, 1866, and was the son of Francis Thornton Barrett and his wife Eliza Jane, daughter of the late John Trengrouse, of H. M. Excise. He was born in the same year in which his father entered the service of the Birmingham Free Libraries, as Sub-Librarian of the Reference Department.

In the spring of 1877, he removed to Glasgow with his father, who then became first librarian of the Mitchell Library. He was educated in private schools in Birmingham and Glasgow, and also attended Glasgow University for portions of three sessions, taking the classes of the Arts course, but was prevented by illness from completing the course or proceeding to the degree examination. At these classes his interest in biology and other scientific pursuits was doubtless aroused and fostered. This bent was further developed during a brief sojourn in the Kelvingrove Museum at Glasgow, where he aided for a time in the work of preparing specimens for exhibition. His intense interest

in nature and keen enjoyment of open-air life, made him, from an early age, a most enthusiastic rambler; and those who had the pleasure of accompanying him on country walks, will recall many little illuminating and instructive remarks on objects of natural history encountered during these field-path and mountain-side pilgrimages.

He made no pretension to be a systematic biologist, and his observations were always of the most unassuming, yet interesting kind. A flower was to him at once a study and a thing of beauty, and every natural object, or process, or grouping of trees, hills, or shadows, made a direct appeal to the deep-seated artistic feeling which he possessed in a superlative degree. It was, doubtless, this intense devotion to nature in all its aspects, manifested on every occasion, regardless of weather conditions and personal comfort, that induced several severe attacks of rheumatic fever, from which resulted the heart-disease that was the immediate cause of his untimely death.

As a lad he was a frequent visitor to the Mitchell Library, when in its original quarters in Ingram Street, and there he picked up a number of useful ideas which he applied in later years. His first appointment in librarianship was at Baillie's Institution Free Library, Glasgow, where he was assistant librarian under Mr. Thomas Mason, from December, 1886, till January, 1889, and while there he took a useful part in the arrangements for the Glasgow meeting of the L.A. in 1888. The years 1889, 1890, and 1891 he chiefly occupied in cataloguing several libraries; the work including the making of a full card catalogue of the extensive library of the Free Church College, a printed catalogue of the Library of the Institute of Accountants and Actuaries in Glasgow, and also of the valuable private library of the late Mr. Thomas A. Mathieson. In December, 1891, he became a senior assistant in the Mitchell Library, where he remained till May, 1894. At that date he was appointed chief librarian of the Fulham Public Libraries, in succession to Mr. Henry Burns, and shortly afterwards he was married to Miss Amy Griffin, of Glasgow. Their only child is a little girl, Frances, well known by her pet-name "Francie" to many friends in London.

While at Fulham he completely re-organized the central library, and greatly enhanced and increased its stock. He also prepared an elaborate dictionary catalogue of its contents, and spent a goodly portion of his strength in compiling, checking and revising everything himself. For this catalogue he compiled a useful classified list of subject headings, which was prefixed to the alphabetical section. At another stage he carried out a scheme for a branch reading-room in the south part of Fulham, to which he afterwards added an exceedingly compact and tidy open-access lending department. He was instrumental in obtaining a gift from Mr. Carnegie for the erection of a branch for the northern portion of the borough, which he designed himself in association with the borough engineer. In this branch he had intended to carry out a number of novel ideas, especially in regard to the selection of its stock and the arrangements for open access, and was looking forward with immense interest to the realization of his

plans. Among his other works at Fulham of interest to librarians may be mentioned his inauguration of a scheme of public lectures, and instruction classes in literature, the installation of a most ingenious little juvenile lending library in a disused coach-house, where open access can be seen in successful operation under conditions which many would consider hopeless. He also devised an improved alphabetical indicator for fiction only, and established a little reading-room in a public garden lodge, which practically runs itself. He was a member of council of the Library Association, and a lecturer on cataloguing and classification at the London School of Economics in connection with the education scheme of the Library Association. He contributed several papers on professional subjects to the proceedings of the Library Association, and in particular a rather memorable one on library planning, during which he illustrated his points by building up a library plan on the blackboard by means of pieces of tape and pins.

He had a most extraordinary faculty for devising all kinds of ingenious little dodges and methods, which he generally carried out himself in the most neat-handed and clever manner. Many of his "dodges" for simplifying work and keeping things in order are in use at libraries which copied them from Fulham and elsewhere, and he could on almost any occasion suggest a solution, generally happy, for any difficulties in library work. As a librarian he was far in advance of his time, and would no doubt, had he been spared, have made a deep mark on current policy and methods. His work was so quietly and unobtrusively done that the full measure of his great influence is perhaps only known to those London librarians who most frequently met him. Even they only had that privilege for a few short years, and when their intercourse with him was interrupted by the repeated bouts of ill-health which began to attack him two years ago, his absence was most keenly felt. There is scarcely a librarian with whom he came in contact who did not profit by his wisdom and instinctive grasp of detail, yet such was his modest, unassuming and somewhat retiring disposition, that he never sought the slightest recognition. He was generally most at home in a small circle of friends, librarians or scientists, and there, be the subject bibliography, library economy, or science in any of its biological or mathematical aspects, he was always able to discuss with knowledge, sympathy, and a rich fund of humour. His scientific pursuits—or, as he preferred to call them, hobbies—were chiefly microscopy, photo-microscopy, optical lantern work, photography, geology and general biology. He was a member of the Quekett Microscopical Club, and of various local natural history and photographic societies in Fulham, and though he was forced to relax his efforts after 1904, owing to the slowly increasing burden of ill-health, he succeeded in obtaining some remarkably fine results in photo-microscopy.

His health first began to alarm his friends in the summer of 1903, when he was forced to spend part of his annual holiday, which was passed among his beloved Surrey downs, in bed. In the following

**London : Chelsea.**—To Mr. Quinn, the Librarian, is mainly due the origination of the scheme for establishing a large, comfortable, homely-furnished room in the Public Library wherein boys and girls can read books, or prepare their evening lessons for next day's school. In an adjoining room it is proposed to give lantern lectures and other aids towards the encouragement of a taste for literature and study.

**London : Cubitt Town, Poplar.**—Mr. C. Harold Norton was the architect of the Public Library opened last January and depicted in *The Building News* last month.

**London : Lewisham.**—The new Public Library, which is a branch for the Brockley district of Lewisham, was opened by Mr. Thomas White, the Mayor of Lewisham, on October 21st. The building, the fixtures, and furnishing are admirably adapted to the intended purpose, and received the hearty commendation of the numerous visitors to the opening ceremony.

**London : St. Pancras.**—Much controversy has arisen, inside and outside the Council Chamber, as to the wisdom of appointing a Public Librarian two or three years before there are buildings to hold the library. Mr. H. T. Ashby, the chairman of the committee, writes to the press that an enormous amount of work has to be done by the librarian *in advance*, unless the opening of the five libraries of St. Pancras is to be an opening of empty halls and bookless shelves.

**London : Westminster.**—In consequence of the success which has attended the opening on Sundays of the St. Martin's Lane Library, it is proposed to extend it to the Great Smith Street, and Buckingham Palace Road Libraries. At the last meeting of the Westminster City Council the Public Libraries Committee brought forward a recommendation to the effect that, as an experiment, those libraries should be opened on Sundays for three months from 6 to 9.30 p.m.—*The Times*.

**Loughton, Essex.**—The late Mr. William Henry Turner, many years ago a well-known resident, has bequeathed £100 to the library in the Lopping Hall. The building derives its quaint name from the fact that it was built with funds received from the Corporation of London in compensation for the cessation of the local right to lop timber for firewood, in the forest.

**Manchester.**—The Braille Lending Library for the blind having outgrown the accommodation provided in 1898, additional space has been obtained in the same building. Sir William Houldsworth, at the end of September, fulfilled the pleasant task of declaring the new library open. The catalogue shows that over 1,300 books are on the shelves, including many classical English works.

**Montrose.**—Mr. John Morley, M.P. opened the Public Library on October 19th, when the freedom of the Burgh was conferred upon him and upon Dr. Carnegie, whose generous gift of £7,500 has provided for the cost of the building. Montrose owes gratitude also to Mr. W. Douglas Johnston, who appealed to Dr. Carnegie in 1901, gave £500

towards the cost of the site, and collected a further £1,000. Of Mr. J. Lindsay Grant's arrangement of the interior, space will not allow us to speak, of his admirable design for the exterior our illustration gives a good idea.



MONTROSE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

**Paris.**—The National Library of France some time since opened a new department devoted to the practice of law, as distinguished from what might be styled its literature. In this new department are being preserved the records of all famous cases since 1790. Some idea of the extent of the collection may be gathered from the fact that the catalogue already runs into eight volumes, and more are to follow.

**Pemberton.**—The Earl of Ellesmere has offered to give £400 to enable the library authorities to purchase a site at Spring Bank for the Pemberton Branch Public Library.

**Penge.**—The Public Library is now open on Sundays from 3 to 6 p.m.

**Perth.**—It has become a question whether the committee of the Sandeman Public Library will be able to continue for much longer to grant the privileges of the institution to readers residing outside Perth. For some years the County Council gave a grant of £50 for the purchase of technical books and in return anyone in the county could enjoy the advantages of local readers. Now the County Council have dropped their grant to £30, which is considered utterly inadequate.

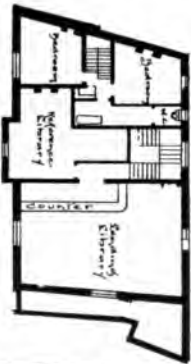
**Rutherglen, N.B.**—After considerable disputation and some litigation, it has been decided that Dr. Carnegie's offer of £7,500 shall be accepted, and a Public Library erected.

THE BINGHAM LIBRARY

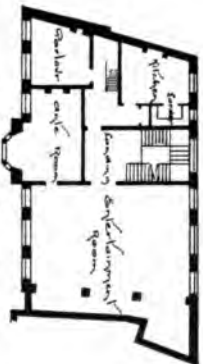
GLoucester.



Ground Plan.



2nd Floor Plan.



1st Floor Plan.

V A Searcy amice  
Gloucester



Mr. V. A. Lawson, A.M.I.C.E.,  
Architect.

Mr. George Drew  
Builder.

Plan reproduced by Permission.  
From an Illustrated Supplement issued by the *Wills & Gloucestershire Standard* on  
September 23rd, 1905, on the occasion of the opening ceremony.



*From a Photograph by*

*[W. Dennis Moss, Cirencester.]*

MR. DANIEL GEORGE BINGHAM





of service had been characterised by an assiduous attention to the responsibilities of his office, devotion to duty, high capacity, and a desire to increase the usefulness and efficiency of the library as an institution, and to make it far reaching in its benefits and advantages to the community. The work of the Public Libraries had developed under his care, and his untimely death was a distinct loss to the Council, whom he served so well."

JAMES DUFF BROWN.



## A PUBLIC LIBRARY & SOMETHING MORE.

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THAT Cirencester recognized the debt of gratitude it owed to Mr. Daniel George Bingham for founding and endowing a Public Library, was manifest to those who were privileged to be present at the opening ceremony on September 21st. We are so accustomed to Dr. Carnegie's generous role, that it is refreshing to find another following in his footsteps, and, indeed, outpacing them, for Mr. Bingham has not been content to found a library; he has associated therewith an institution which bids fair to be the town club, rendezvous and house of amusement, as well as of instruction.

The wide scope of his good intent will be grasped by an enumeration of the departments provided by his care and forethought—first and foremost, a lending library with accommodation for some 8,000 more volumes than the 7,000 already given—a reference library containing already over 1,000 books, some of great value—a lecture room, with piano and lantern screen—a newspaper and magazine reading room, lofty and well lighted—a smoking room, in which papers and magazines may be enjoyed—a workroom for women and girls—a bicycle shed—a gymnasium and recreation room—comfortable accommodation for the librarian's residence—a porter's lodge—and last, but not least, provision for supplying tea, coffee, and light refreshments.

We sincerely hope that Mr. Bingham's noble gift to his native place may lead rich citizens of other towns to follow his example by founding similar institutions, and amply endowing them, so that the cost of maintenance may not fall on over-burdened ratepayers.

We noticed the opening of the library in our October issue, but felt that so exceptional an occasion required more space, and we need not apologize for thus again referring to the event, especially as we are now able to present a portrait of the donor of the institution.

The story of his life, Mr. Bingham told to his audience at the opening ceremony; suffice it to say that from a clerkship on the Great Western Railway, he rose to the control of the Dutch-Rhenish Railways, which were then in a moribund, semi-bankrupt condition, that he raised the value of that property till it was bought by the Dutch government, that many years of his life have been devoted to the

interests of his adopted country that he resides for much of each year in Utrecht, where he has large property, spends a few months in his Wiltshire home, at Box, and has a very warm place in his heart for Cirencester.

Our notice would be incomplete without reference to the fact that Mr. V. A. Lawson has designed a building of an aspect admirably in character with the leading features of the old town, and that in Mr. A. G. Bradbury the library possesses a man who will heartily second the founder's noble effort to provide Cirencester with a "Public Library and Something More."

It rests with the men and women of the good old town to show that they appreciate the boon by taking advantage of opportunities offered freely not alone on weekdays but, we are glad to see, also on Sundays. The total cost of the institution will be about £50,000.



## AUXILIARY FUNDS FOR LIBRARIES.



UNDER the heading "Maidstone," in our October issue, appeared a note of the good work done for the Public Library by the addition of many books of value, through the instrumentality of a body of subscribers to what is there known as the "Library Auxiliary Fund."

We draw our readers' attention to this as a hint for the establishment of similar societies in other towns, at the same time suggesting a modification of the plan adopted in Maidstone. There the books supplied by means of the fund are not for three years lent for home reading to any other persons than the subscribers.

This rule seems to somewhat depreciate the quality of generosity in the gifts, though it is true that such books as are "in" are available to readers in the reference library.

The Fund was established in 1882 and is maintained by a small number of gentlemen who subscribe annually the sum of half-a-guinea and upwards.

Mr. Allchin, the librarian, might well appeal to these subscribers to permit such an alteration of rules as would provide for the immediate and equal use of the books by all readers.

The subscribers may be congratulated on the fact that some 680 works, many of much value and some of local interest, have, by the agency of the Fund been added to the library (at a cost of over £300).

Malvern has benefitted largely by the gifts of the local association known as "Patrons of the Public Library," not long since created by someone's happy thought.

Miss Lucy, the Librarian, informs us that the Patrons claim no precedence in the use of books, the volumes being placed at the disposal of general readers.

The rules adopted at Malvern are so simple and explicit that we print them here as a model code :

1. That voluntary annual subscribers of One Guinea and upwards be enrolled as Patrons of the Public Library.
2. That Patrons be supplied with copies of all catalogues and reports as they are issued from the Library, free.
3. That a meeting of the Patrons be held in the first quarter of each year at which books to the total value, at published prices, of the Patrons' subscriptions for the year shall be chosen for purchase by and for the Library. That the choice be made by a majority of the votes of those present, each Patron having one vote for each Guinea he has subscribed. And that in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman, who shall be chosen by the meeting, shall have a casting vote.

Our object is to point out the great advantage likely to accrue to libraries by the creation of such societies or associations, and we may leave details to librarians and committees of Public Libraries.

That there are in most towns public spirited individuals, ladies and gentlemen, who would gladly contribute an annual sum we have no doubt, and from them might be expected the guinea or half-guinea, but we would go further and suggest that when once such a society is formed, its secretary would find mechanics and others willing to give their five shillings or half-crown annually to enrich the library.

It would be well to secure some "booky" man, scholar or student, to act as leader in the movement, the librarian acting as secretary. The leader should be one whose position enables him to mix with all sorts and conditions of men, so that the society, though affiliated with the Library Committee, may occupy a quasi-independent position.

Probably Maidstone and Malvern are not alone in possessing such library aids as we refer to, and we shall glad to hear of other towns which enjoy similar advantages.

*Will librarians please notify?*



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department*].

**Aberdeen.**—Much discussion took place at the meeting of the committee of the Public Library on October 20th, as to the best method by which to effect economy. Among other proposals, we note, that it was suggested that the present indicator in the lending department, which shows the printed titles of all books, should be abolished and an indicator substituted showing merely numbers, but strong opposition was shown, and ultimately an amendment was carried to retain the present system of indicator.

**Bangor.**—The Rev. T. Shankland, the librarian of the University College Welsh Library, reports remarkable additions to the rare items added to the library during the last six months. The committee was highly gratified at the excellent work done by the Welsh librarian since his appointment in collecting and purchasing valuable and rare Welsh books and manuscripts.

**Bradford.**—The Central Public Library is being rapidly rearranged. Considerable structural alterations have provided Mr. Butler Wood with the required additional accommodation, and ere long Bradford will possess a central library of which it may well be proud.

**Brierley Hill.**—Mr. J. H. Dudley is making preparation for the early establishment of a children's library in connection with the Public Library of which he is librarian.

**Bromley, Kent.**—The Library Committee have decided to substitute the simple recommendation of a burgess for the usual guarantee to non-burgess applications. This alteration makes it possible to discontinue the practice of renewing tickets annually; the original applications hold good as long as the readers use the library.

**Brynmawr.**—The Public Library was opened on October 18th, by Mr. Ll. Thomas. Dr. Carnegie's gift of £1,250 was locally supplemented to the extent of £400, towards which the Duke of Beaufort gave £50, as well as presenting the site for the Library.

**Caerphilly.**—Dr. Carnegie declines to increase his donation to the desired £5,000, and advises that rooms be rented for branch libraries, in place of erecting buildings, in the two least populous wards.

**Chadderton.**—Mr. Joseph Hilton, Chairman of the Committee, opened the Public Library on October 14th. Dr. Carnegie gave £5,000 for the erection of the building and Mr. Alfred Butterworth, of Hollinwood, has presented £100 for the purchase of books.

**Clitheroe.**—On October 21st Mr. John Eastham, the aged Town Clerk, ably performed the opening ceremony at the new Public Library, erected by means of a grant of £3,000 from Dr. Carnegie. Mr. Eastman who is over 80 years of age has been Town Clerk for 50 years.

**Colwyn Bay.**—The building committee having exceeded the amount of Dr. Carnegie's gift of £3,000 by the sum of £784, the generous donor has promised to make a further donation to clear off the whole debt so soon as the committee have completed the payment for the site.

**Coseley.**—Dr. Carnegie's offer of £3,500 for the erection of a Public Library was declined by a majority of one at the meeting of the Urban District Council.

**Gainsborough.**—The new Public Library, erected by the aid of a grant of £4,000 from Dr. Carnegie, was opened on October 4th by Mr. James Marshall, in the presence of a large number of town's folk and others. We may congratulate Messrs. Scorer & Gamble, of Lincoln, on their design for the building.

**Glenalmond, N.B.**—We may add to our note of last month, that *The Building News*, of October 13th, contained a view of the library building referred to, designed by Mr. A. G. Heiton, of Perth.

**Gravesend.**—The new Public Library was opened by the accomplished Mayor of this old borough (Mr. George Matthew Arnold, D.L.) on September 28th. Ample accommodation seems to have been provided for a library suitable to the place. We notice, with pleasure, that one of the tablets to be fixed in the vestibule will record, among other names connected with the institution, that of Mr. A. J. Philip, the librarian.

**Grimsbly.**—Mr. Geddie, the librarian, has had to complain of frequent clipping of newspapers in the reading-room. A watch has been set and one man caught in the act of cutting out "wanted" advertisements. Warning notices, threatening proceedings against offenders, are to be issued.

**Hanley.**—The Public Library Committee on October 2nd, opened a branch reading-room at Northwood, to be used in evenings only. Dr. Faulds presided at the opening ceremony, and Mr. John Ridgway, vice-chairman of the committee, delivered an interesting address on the value of newspaper reading, and the usefulness of such a room as an auxiliary to the Public Library.

**Hanwell.**—On September 27th, Sir Clifton Robinson opened the Public Library at Church Road. The library was built by a grant of £3,000 from Dr. Carnegie on land belonging to the District Council, and accommodates a lending department of some 8,000 books, reference room, reading rooms, etc., with a lecture room on the first floor. Mr. Frank Pocock is the librarian.

**Ipswich.**—Mr. H. Ogle, the Librarian, announces the addition of a goodly number of books by gift and purchase to the Public Library. Borrowers can now obtain two books at a time from the lending library provided that one of the volumes be other than fiction.

**Leyton.**—The District Council have decided on the purchase of a fine old mansion, known as Park House, with a view to so altering it that it may be suitable for the purpose of a branch library. The house is situated in the Leytonstone Road. Mr. Henry Heather, the Chairman of the Council, appeals for financial additions to Dr. Carnegie's gifts.

**Liverpool.**—Mr. James Hutt, M.A., the Librarian, points out in a printed circular, just issued, that the Lyceum Library is by far the oldest institution in Liverpool, and that it claims to be the oldest proprietary circulating library in Europe. The first catalogue, published in 1758, contained the titles of 450 works, the library now consists of 50,000 volumes, in all classes of literature.

**Llangollen.**—Sir Theodore Martin, following his annual custom, has just made a valuable donation of books to the Public Library, forty volumes of standard literature being included in the gift.

**London : Chelsea.**—To Mr. Quinn, the Librarian, is mainly due the origination of the scheme for establishing a large, comfortable, homely-furnished room in the Public Library wherein boys and girls can read books, or prepare their evening lessons for next day's school. In an adjoining room it is proposed to give lantern lectures and other aids towards the encouragement of a taste for literature and study.

**London : Cubitt Town, Poplar.**—Mr. C. Harold Norton was the architect of the Public Library opened last January and depicted in *The Building News* last month.

**London : Lewisham.**—The new Public Library, which is a branch for the Brockley district of Lewisham, was opened by Mr. Thomas White, the Mayor of Lewisham, on October 21st. The building, the fixtures, and furnishing are admirably adapted to the intended purpose, and received the hearty commendation of the numerous visitors to the opening ceremony.

**London : St. Pancras.**—Much controversy has arisen, inside and outside the Council Chamber, as to the wisdom of appointing a Public Librarian two or three years before there are buildings to hold the library. Mr. H. T. Ashby, the chairman of the committee, writes to the press that an enormous amount of work has to be done by the librarian *in advance*, unless the opening of the five libraries of St. Pancras is to be an opening of empty halls and bookless shelves.

**London : Westminster.**—In consequence of the success which has attended the opening on Sundays of the St. Martin's Lane Library, it is proposed to extend it to the Great Smith Street, and Buckingham Palace Road Libraries. At the last meeting of the Westminster City Council the Public Libraries Committee brought forward a recommendation to the effect that, as an experiment, those libraries should be opened on Sundays for three months from 6 to 9.30 p.m.—*The Times*.

**Loughton, Essex.**—The late Mr. William Henry Turner, many years ago a well-known resident, has bequeathed £100 to the library in the Lopping Hall. The building derives its quaint name from the fact that it was built with funds received from the Corporation of London in compensation for the cessation of the local right to lop timber for firewood, in the forest.

**Manchester.**—The Braille Lending Library for the blind having outgrown the accommodation provided in 1898, additional space has been obtained in the same building. Sir William Houldsworth, at the end of September, fulfilled the pleasant task of declaring the new library open. The catalogue shows that over 1,300 books are on the shelves, including many classical English works.

**Montrose.**—Mr. John Morley, M.P. opened the Public Library on October 19th, when the freedom of the Burgh was conferred upon him and upon Dr. Carnegie, whose generous gift of £7,500 has provided for the cost of the building. Montrose owes gratitude also to Mr. W. Douglas Johnston, who appealed to Dr. Carnegie in 1901, gave £500

towards the cost of the site, and collected a further £1,000. Of Mr. J. Lindsay Grant's arrangement of the interior, space will not allow us to speak, of his admirable design for the exterior our illustration gives a good idea.



MONTROSE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

**Paris.**—The National Library of France some time since opened a new department devoted to the practice of law, as distinguished from what might be styled its literature. In this new department are being preserved the records of all famous cases since 1790. Some idea of the extent of the collection may be gathered from the fact that the catalogue already runs into eight volumes, and more are to follow.

**Pemberton.**—The Earl of Ellesmere has offered to give £400 to enable the library authorities to purchase a site at Spring Bank for the Pemberton Branch Public Library.

**Penge.**—The Public Library is now open on Sundays from 3 to 6 p.m.

**Perth.**—It has become a question whether the committee of the Sandeman Public Library will be able to continue for much longer to grant the privileges of the institution to readers residing outside Perth. For some years the County Council gave a grant of £50 for the purchase of technical books and in return anyone in the county could enjoy the advantages of local readers. Now the County Council have dropped their grant to £30, which is considered utterly inadequate.

**Rutherglen, N.B.**—After considerable disputation and some litigation, it has been decided that Dr. Carnegie's offer of £7,500 shall be accepted, and a Public Library erected.



**St. Austell.**—Whosoever the good saint was after whom the town is named, we question whether he ever accomplished a more kindly work than that which culminated in the "At Home" recently held in the Union House (otherwise Workhouse). Invitations to attend were scattered broadcast and each bore the paragraph "Each visitor is desired to bring a book for the new library." The Rev. Canon Purcell, the Chairman, must have been gratified by the result for half-an-hour witnessed the formation of a library of some 500 books, presented for the use of those unfortunate enough to have to pass their days in the "Union." Last month we noticed a similar deed at Ross.

**Salisbury.**—On October 2nd the new Public Library, erected from the designs of Mr. Alfred C. Bothams of Salisbury, was opened by Lord Avebury, who delivered an address full of point and interest. Mr. Joseph Jones, the Librarian, will have pleasant premises in which to carry on his work.

Our acknowledgments are due to the Corporation of Salisbury for their courtesy in permitting us the use of the block.



SALISBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

**Sevenoaks.**—Lord Avebury has consented to open the Public Library on the 14th of this month.

**Shipley.**—We understand that the Public Library in this Yorkshire town will be worked on the safe-guarded open access system.

**Sowerby Bridge.**—Mr. Frank Clay, on October 14th, opened the Public Library, erected through Dr. Carnegie's grant of £2,500, Mrs. Clay performing the opening ceremony for the ladies' reading-room. The library already possesses about 5,000 volumes.

**Tamworth.**—*The Building News*, October 13th, contained a view of the new Public Library, designed by Mr. E. R. Danford. The plan shows lending library, 31-ft. 9-in. by 19-ft., reading room, 42-ft. 6-in. by 16 ft., reference room 20-ft. by 19-ft. and various offices, all on one floor. Accommodation is provided for 5,000 volumes.

**Tottenham.**—A new catalogue of the books in the Public Libraries is to be printed at a cost of about £240.

**West Bridgford.**—At a meeting of the Urban District Council, held on October 6th, it was decided that Dr. Carnegie's offer of £3,000 for the erection of a Public Library be declined with thanks.

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**Mr. Henry Bond**, chief of the Woolwich Public Libraries, has been appointed first borough librarian of St. Pancras. He was trained at Barrow-in-Furness, and became successively librarian of Kendal, Lincoln, and Woolwich.

**Mr. Archibald Cameron**, of Burntisland, has been appointed Librarian of the new Public Library at Townhill, Dunfermline. The appointment was made by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust.

**Mr. H. G. T. Cannons** has been appointed chief librarian, and clerk to the committee, of Finsbury Public Library.

**Mr. John Fortescue**, who succeeds Sir Richard Holmes as Librarian at Windsor Castle is the fifth son of the late Lord Fortescue, and has done much literary work since his first book, a history of the 17th Lancers, was published. His "Story of the Red Deer," charmingly told, is an instructive volume concerning the animal inhabitants of Exmoor.

**Mr. Charles S. Johnson**, sub-librarian of Kingston-on-Thames Public Library, has been appointed chief librarian of Teddington.

**Mr. Sydney Lamb**, who for nine years has been an assistant in the Central Library at St. Helens has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library at Ashton-in-Makerfield.

**Miss A. E. Milnes** succeeds the late Miss Manlove as Librarian of the Sheffield Subscription Library.

**Mr. William Robertson** has been appointed Librarian of the new Public Library of Kinross.

## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THE Conference Number (September) of the *Library Journal* is with us once more, and, as usual, is a publication to be gazed upon with some little awe. It may be that the St. Louis conference has overshadowed the present one, but the Portland meeting—judging from the volume before us—does not seem to come up to the standard of previous conferences. However, the informative papers that do appear are exceedingly good. The address of the President, Mr. Ernest Cushing Richardson, lays stress upon the fact that the conference is a national one, not, as last year's, an international one. His subject is the national library problem of to-day, and he divides his consideration of the matter under three main heads: the adequacy of American libraries as regards their books, the Public Library as a maker of good citizens, and the A.L.A. permanent headquarters. Two reports on present conditions are Mr. C. W. Smith's "Library Conditions in the North West," and Mr. E. O. S. Scholefield's "Libraries in the British North West." Mr. John Cotton Dana contributes a very interesting examination of "What State and local library associations can do for library interests." "In speaking of associations of librarians, the first thing to be said is, that they effect so much by the mere fact that they are. They do so much of which we are but vaguely conscious, they so often give to so many, without outward sign, that subtle feeling of comradeship, which becomes, before one knows it, a stimulus to further effort, and a guide to that effort's profitable expense." He then examines the working methods of associations, and makes some trenchant criticisms. A list of the associations of America, England, and other countries is appended. Mr. Dana's notice of a celebrated organization will prove interesting to many librarians, and we therefore extract it—"The Pseudonyms: a delightful fabrication of the fancy of a librarian who has humour and imagination. No dues. Members, all Librarians with a sense of humour. Meetings reported in *Library World*." Mr. Putnam describes the many ways in which the Library of Congress as a national library can help the other libraries of the country. We cannot give the extended notice to this paper that we should like, but Mr. Putnam kindly sums up for us: The Library of Congress is "A collection indefinitely expanding, at once a monument of American literature, and an exposition of the serviceable in all literature; resident at our national capital, but made available in non-resident service through the loan of material required for research, and through the exhibit in bibliographies of the material most important for research in particular subjects, and expounded by experts in response to particular inquiry; a central bureau upon matters bibliographic; a central bureau for cataloguing, the product of whose work may be utilized by other libraries; and—a few other things." Several articles upon those American institutions, State libraries and State library commissions

are: Mr. J. L. Gillis's "State library administration," Mr. G. S. Godard's "Development of the State library," Mr. H. E. Legler's "State library commissions," Mr. Johnson Brigham's "A model library commission law," and Miss C. M. Hewins's "Work of an eastern library commission." Of more interest, because more applicable to English library conditions, is Miss Gratia A. Countryman's "Travelling libraries as a first step in developing libraries." Naturally, she believes that travelling libraries accomplish the best results in the way of developing library interests if they are part of an organized system and under trained supervision. The travelling library would have been a great step if it had simply solved the practical difficulty of supplying farmers and residents of small villages with books, "but in the hands of the State commissions and State libraries it has become the strong right arm in developing permanent local libraries, and in strengthening poor and struggling libraries." According to Mr. H. S. Ranck, the following are the essentials in library administration on an income from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Those in charge should have a full knowledge of the legal rights and duties of the library and its officers; that the governing board of the library also should have this knowledge; that the librarian and staff should know the history of their institution; efficient book-keeping; good books; a good catalogue; classification; efficient registration methods; the first essential is a good librarian, and the last a library building. A supplementary to this is Miss Freeman's "Economies in plans and methods." Several of the opinions expressed are worth noting. "An important economy, especially to the library with few assistants, and those on small salaries, is that of short hours of work, and liberal treatment of its staff. A seven-hour day with weekly half-holiday, will go far toward compensating for a corresponding brevity of salary, and experience proves that in the long run, any institution gets better and more willing service out of people who are not overworked, and who have a margin of time in which to live, outside the demands of their daily work. I know of no greater economy in library administration than that of giving the public free access to the shelves of the library. From the financial point of view, it seems clearly proven by cumulative testimony that the small proportion of books lost from open shelves and the additional care required to keep the shelves in order is far outweighed by the saving of the labour necessary in the searching for books by the library attendants, and the carrying them to and from the shelves. The doing-away with call-slips and the accompanying machinery is an item not to be overlooked in the petty economies of the small library. . . . The open shelf idea has been so long discussed, and now so widely accepted, that we scarcely realise how many attractive Carnegie libraries are being built to-day with a snug, tight little closed stack-room at the rear, and no provision whatever for a comfortable space where the public may look over its own books. To the librarian who has inherited such a library, we can only suggest that if he cannot carve a highway to the book-room, he may at least have a book-case containing a few hundred carefully chosen, attractive books, placed within easy reach of the loan

desk." A very informative paper on "Rational library work with children and the preparation for it," by Miss F. J. Olcott, is one of the most sensible articles on work with juveniles that has come from the States for a long time; another is Miss H. E. Hassler's "Common sense and the story hour." A good practical paper is Mr. H. R. Mead's "Training of students in the use of books," a subject which has been engaging some attention on this side of the water lately. A brief outline of a course of lectures is given. The other papers deal with college and university libraries. Reports of the following committees of the A.L.A. are included: Public documents; Library administration; Publishing board; Gifts and bequests; and Standards of library training.

*Public Libraries* for October opens with a paper by Dr. G. Stanley Hall on "What children do read and what they ought to read." After descanting upon the evils of the modern novel with its mawkish sentiment and elastic morality, Dr. Hall goes on to say what ought to be read and to outline the methods of teaching children to read better books. First they should be acquainted with the "story roots" and leading motives of all the greatest and best literature in the world, and to this end, the writer believes in résumés and epitomes. Then, "history means story, and the young child normally approaches it by the path of narrative and biography." Third, girls, and especially boys, ought to read in the field of nature and modern science; here there should be little difficulty, for children usually have an intense curiosity regarding science and the wonders of nature. Fourth, in teaching modern and ancient languages, attention should be focussed upon the subject matter. Finally the writer enters a plea for "the now hard-worked method of running down all kinds of subjects in a library." The two papers, noted above in the "Journal," by Miss Freeman and Mr. Ranck, dealing with "Library administration on an income from \$1,000 to \$5,000 a year," are included. A long report on the Portland conference takes up most of the number. There is a short article on "The future of library schools" by Mr. Dewey.

The principal item in the October *Library Assistant* is the programme of the coming session. It is easily the best programme the Assistants' Association have ever had, and reflects great credit on the energy and organising capacity of Mr. Sayers. The article in the number is by Mr. R. D. Macleod, and deals with "The personal element in Public Library work"—a subject on which little new is said.

The August *Literary Collector* contains but one article, a long and interesting bibliographical one by Mr. W. H. Miner on "The beginnings of American science."



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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## CATALOGUES.

**Bo'ness Public Library.** Catalogue of Books in the Lending Library. 75 pp. 8vo.  $9\frac{1}{4}'' \times 6''$ . 1905. Price 6d.

A very good example of the title-a-line dictionary catalogue. Mr. Moir, the librarian, is to be congratulated upon the amount and quality of the work he has performed, unassisted, in a few months. One matter we take exception to is the method of indicating the number of volumes comprising a work. Thus "Hogg (J.) *Ettrick Shepherd*. Tales and Sketches (6). 5491—6" means that the work is in six volumes; but it might equally well mean that there are six tales and sketches. Besides, the number might be confused with the call-number. In other particulars the catalogue is well up to the dictionary catalogue standard.

**Brighton Public Library.** Victoria Lending Library. Supplement to the Class Lists. 68 pp. 8vo. 1905. Price 2d.

A fifth portion of this excellent example of classified cataloguing on the Dewey system. Embodies the features already described.

**Gainsborough Public Library.** Catalogue of the Books in the Lending and Reference Departments. Compiled by Ernest W. Neesham. 104 pp. 8vo.  $7'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ . 1905.

A dictionary catalogue. Contents are set out where thought necessary. Entries are pretty much cut down, but we are pleased to see the periods added to historical works. Though it appears that only about three weeks were available to get the catalogue out, it is remarkably free from error, and, on the whole, above the average.

**Nottingham Public Libraries.** Complete List of Works in Biography in the Central Free Public Lending Library, 36 pp. 8vo.  $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{3}{4}''$ . 1905. Price 4d.

Entries under biographies, authors, and titles of series. Entries are very much cut down, but the birth and death dates are given. An improvement would have been the addition of short descriptions of the biographee, such as "actor," "artist," "engineer," etc.

**Victoria Public Library of Western Australia.** Catalogue of Books. Part VI. [Hadden—Jameson]. pp. 405—484. 4to. Perth, W.A., 1905.

A further instalment of this exhaustive dictionary catalogue. Especially valuable for the elaborate setting-out of contents.

## REPORTS.

**Bebington: Mayer Trust, 1904—05.** Borrowers 641; volumes issued 14,911. There has been a slight falling off in the use of the library owing to the opening of a library at Port Sunlight. The lectures given in connection with the Trust have been a great success, as, judging from the list, they well deserve.

**Fulham**, seventeenth report, 1904—05. Stock 22,460 volumes; volumes issued 201,938 (lending 161,759; reference 15,654). Dr. Carnegie has promised £4,790 for the erection of a building for another branch library. A separate juvenile lending department has been opened in connection with the Central Library. It is worked on the open access system, and the result has been "most satisfactory." Two further editions of 1,000 each of the Fiction catalogue have been called for—a fact over which we may ponder considering the difficulty most librarians have in getting rid of their stock. Successful courses of Gilchrist and other lectures have been given during the year.

**Glasgow: Baillie's Institution**, sixteenth report, 1904—05. Stock 20,938 volumes; volumes issued 48,632. The Glasgow Archaeological Society have agreed to lend their library of archæological and antiquarian works to the Institution, and this arrangement has notably increased the Institution's resources in these departments.

**Willesden: Kensal Rise**, 1904—05. Stock 4,144 volumes; borrowers 1,500; volumes issued 40,527 (lending 38,703; reference 1,824). Since the re-opening, the use of the library has largely increased. Non-fiction tickets have been issued, and have met with appreciation.

**Kingston-upon-Thames**, 1904—05. Stock 12,856 volumes; borrowers 3,259; volumes issued 88,497, last year 74,495. The lecture hall has been very useful, and has resulted in the formation of a local centre for University Extension. The local Photographic Society has formed a "Photographic Survey and Record" section for the purpose of collecting photographic records of everything of interest in the district. The prints are to be stored in the reference library.

**Leicester**, thirty-fourth report, 1904-05. Stock 70,833 volumes; borrowers 15,523; volumes issued 504,687. The most important event of the year has been the opening of the new library by Dr. Carnegie, who gave £12,000 for its erection. Among the improvements introduced in the new building are a juvenile department, a separate newsroom, a reference library seating one hundred readers, and a separate ladies' room. The library's collection of books for the blind has been so little used lately that it has been handed over to the local institution for the blind.

**Lincoln**, eleventh report, 1904-05. Stock 12,359 volumes; borrowers 3,021; volumes issued 83,964 (lending 74,314; reference 9,650). Hand lists on Engineering and Music have been distributed gratis, and an elaborate catalogue of the local collection and a fiction indicator-key have been published.

**Port Elizabeth**, fifty-sixth report, 1904-05. Stock 43,608 volumes; subscribers 691; volumes issued 67,119 (exclusive of reference use), last year 49,714. The cataloguing, classifying, and re-arranging of the library is nearing completion, and there is every evidence of substantial progress.

**Portsmouth**, twenty-first report, 1904-05. Stock 66,317 volumes; volumes issued 280,769 (lending 252,077; reference 28,692). A selected list of books on special subjects has been sent to the local press during the year, and other lists on topical subjects have been displayed.

**Victoria**, 1904. Stock 212,491 volumes; borrowers 8,731; volumes issued 188,289 (exclusive of reference use; visits to reference library 356,162). Want of space is felt, notwithstanding some recent additions to the shelving. There has been continued progress in the use of the institution.

**Wimbledon**, eighteenth report, 1904-05. Stock 15,281 volumes; borrowers 3,282; volumes issued 111,048 (lending 94,876; reference 16,172). Non-fiction tickets have been issued. A catalogue has been printed, and special lists on topical subjects have been displayed in the news-room.

## BULLETINS.

**Bootle.** *Free Library, Museum, and Technical School Journal* (September). General and museum notes, and a list of Chetham Society publications, and recent additions.

**Brooklyn.** *Bulletin* (July). The usual list of additions.

**Croydon.** Reader's Index (September-October). An excellent and exhaustive annotated reading list on "Napoleon" prepared in connection with the University Extension Lectures, by Mr. William A. Peplow, is the principal feature. There is a short article on "Napoleon in Fiction," and the usual features.

**Darwen.** *Journal* (August). Latest additions, and books for boys and girls.

**Nottingham.** *Bulletin* (October). Under the heading "General Reading" are given some volumes of a miscellaneous character with the contents fully set out. A number of general notes on authors, books and work are given.

**Pratt Institute.** *Monthly Bulletin* (July). A note on the new A.L.A. Catalog," advising borrowers to purchase a copy and guide their reading by it, and a list of books recently added.

**St. Louis.** *Monthly Bulletin* (June). Annotated lists of additions.

**Sunderland.** *Library Circular* (July). List of additions (occasional annotations). How to read Ruskin. Some contributions to a bibliography of Durham and Northumberland. Annals of Sunderland (continued). There is a supplement giving a list of the works of Ruskin in the library, and the title-page and index to Volume 2 of the *Circular*.

**Willesden Green.** *Quarterly Record* (August). Notes. Additions to the library. Survey of the history of Willesden. Parochial paragraphs.



## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Baker** (Ernest A.) and Francis E. Ross. *The Voice of the mountains.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. n.d. [1895]. 8°, 6½", pp. xxii. + 294. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Selections in verse and prose from the principal authors who have written about mountains and mountain scenery.

This dainty little orological anthology contains some of the best poems on the Alps, the mountains of Wales, Scotland, England, the Pyrenees and elsewhere, together with extracts from prose writings concerning the scenery, influence and psychology of mountains in every aspect. The editing has been carefully and sympathetically executed, and Messrs. Baker and Ross are to be congratulated upon the production of a useful, novel, and interesting work.

**Birrell** (Augustine). Andrew Marvell. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd. 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 242. Price 2s. net.

Critical biography of Marvell (1621—1678) the poet and statesman, in the English Men of Letters Series.

In this admirable and well-balanced book, Mr. Birrell has given us a splendid memorial to a satirist and poet whose work was slowly passing out of mind in spite of the efforts of pious editors. Mr. Birrell's sympathetic and lucid eulogy should go far to re-instate Marvell in the position he should hold in English literary history.

**Bumpus** (T. Francis). *The Cathedrals of England and Wales.* 1st Series. London: T. Werner Laurie, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 282, *illustr.* Price 6s. net.

Notices, historical and architectural, of Durham, Ely, Lincoln, Salisbury, Worcester, Hereford, Chichester, Chester and Bristol Cathedrals, with an introductory sketch.

This promises to be an exceedingly useful and interesting work when completed, as it will present in a comparatively handy form, everything of general interest connected with the great Cathedrals of England, written in an attractive and informing style.

**Burns** (Robert). *The Cotter's Saturday night.* Illustrated by A. S. Boyd. London: Chatto & Windus, 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. 96. Price 6s. net.

The text of Burns' poem, with twenty-one designs by Boyd, printed as separate full-page illustrations.

The last special set of illustrations to "The Cotter's Saturday night" appears to be John Faed's eight special designs published in 1853. "Tom o' Shanter" has proved more attractive to the artist than the poem under notice. Mr. Boyd's beautiful, appropriate, and faithful illustrations are in every way admirable, and give the poem quite a fresh charm and appeal.

**Carnegie** (Andrew). James Watt. (Famous Scots Series.) Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. n.d. [1905]. 8°, 7½", pp. 164. Price 1s. 6d. net.

Biography and appreciation of the Scottish engineer and inventor of the steam cylinder [1736—1819], letter copying press, etc.

This is a remarkably favourable specimen of a popular biography, written by one engineer about the achievements of another. Mr. Carnegie has succeeded in presenting a most graphic and highly interesting account of Watt, his long struggle with adversity and difficulties, and his final triumph as one of the greatest of the practical benefactors of the world.

**Cowley** (Abraham, 1618—1667). Poems. Miscellanies. The Mistress, Pindarique odes, Davideis. Verses written on several occasions. The text edited by A. R. Waller. Cambridge: University Press, 1905. 8°, 7¾", pp. viii. + 468. Price 4s. 6d. net.

The first part of an edition of Cowley's works designed to contain all his poems, plays, and other works in English.

A first-rate student's edition of Cowley, from the text of the collected edition of the works first published in 1668, with all necessary notes and indexes. Mr. Waller has preserved the *atmosphere* of the poems by reproducing as far as possible all typographical and other peculiarities which to some extent enable modern readers to appreciate the flavour of the original editions.

**Davenport** (Cyril). Jewellery. London: Methuen & Co. n.d. [1905]. 8°, 6", pp. xii. + 166, *illustr.* Price 2s. 6d. net.

A volume of the Little Books on Art Series, containing chapters on the archaeological and historical aspects of necklaces, pendants, diadems, earrings, bracelets, finger rings, and pins and brooches.

An interesting and nicely illustrated handbook on the art and archaeology of jewellery by Mr. Davenport, of the British Museum, which forms a capital introduction to a very large and important subject.

**Elton** (Oliver). Michael Drayton, a critical study. With a bibliography. London: A. Constable & Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi. + 216, *illustr., parts.* Price 6s. net.

Life and criticisms of the works of the Elizabethan poet (1563—1631), revised and enlarged from an edition published by the Spenser Society in 1895.

A valuable study, with a complete bibliography, which will be of great use to students of literary history. The bibliography includes all editions of Drayton's works published in his lifetime, and all modern reprints and editions to date.

**Gesta Romanorum.** Entertaining moral stories invented by the monks as a fire-side recreation, and commonly applied in their discourses from the pulpit, whence the most celebrated of our own poets and others have extracted their plots. Translated from the Latin, with preliminary observations and copious notes by the Rev. Charles Swan, and a preface by E. A. Baker. London : G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xx. + 472. Price 6s. net.

**GESTA ROMANORUM.** Trans. from the Latin by the Rev. Charles Swan. Revised and corrected by Wynnard Hooper. London : George Bell and Sons. 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. lxxvi. + 426. Price 2s. net.

The title-page of Mr. Baker's edition of Swan's version of the *Gesta Romanorum* is so explicit, that it is needless to further characterize it. Both editions are useful, and a welcome departure from the eternal sameness which makes most collections of modern reprints a delusion and a snare. Mr. Hooper's version in the York Library is the best suited for private use, while Mr. Baker's is essentially a library edition ; we may say a reference library edition, because the morality of some of the stories is somewhat dubious.

**Goethe** (Johann Wolfgang, 1749-1832). *Faust*. Translated by Anna Swanwick, with an introduction and bibliography by Karl Breul. London : G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. lxx. + 438. Price 2s. net.

A reprint, in the York Library, of a rhymed version of *Faust*, originally published in 1850-78.

This is a very dainty and useful student's edition of *Faust*, enriched with notes, and a good working bibliography.

**Gordon** (Charles). *Old time Aldwych, Kingsway and neighbourhood*. London : T. Fisher Unwin. n.d. [1905]. 8°, 9", pp. xiv. + 368. *illust., maps*. Price 7s. 6d. net.

An archæological and historical account of the districts of the City of Westminster, and Borough of Holborn, in London, recently opened up by the two great thoroughfares of Aldwych and Kingsway.

A highly interesting history of a part of central London, extending from the Strand, through Clare Market, and near Lincoln's Inn Fields to Holborn, with notices of celebrated residents, churches, houses, taverns, theatres, and other features of interest.

**Heisch** (C. E.). *The Art and craft of the author. Practical hints upon literary work*. London : Elliot Stock, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xiv. + 124. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Chapters on training, style, method, choice of subject, and other essentials of the art of authorship, with particular reference to the works of great authors.

A work dealing more with style and methods for acquiring it, than with the mechanical side of authorship. Stimulating and likely to be useful to young authors.

**Jerrold** (Walter). Charles Lamb. London: George Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6¼", pp. 112., *port.*, *illustr.*, *Bibliography*. Price 1s. net.

**Tuckwell** (W.). Horace. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6¼", pp. 88, *illustr.*, *port.* Price 1s. net.

Two popular and welcome additions to Bell's "Miniature Series of Great Writers," giving in a concise form all that the ordinary student of literature requires.

**Lankester** (E. Ray). Extinct animals. London: A. Constable & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 9", pp. xxiv. + 332, *illustr.*, *port.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

Amplification of a course of lectures delivered in 1903-4 at the Royal Institution, London, dealing with extinct animals of all kinds, mammoths, mastodon, horses, giraffes, okape, sloths, reptiles, fishes and others.

An interesting and popular work on a large subject, well illustrated by photographic and other pictures of actual remains and reproductions of extinct animal life in all its varieties. Anyone interested in the Dodo, or Great Auk, or Dinoceras, or other extinct bird or animal will be certain to find in this work the fullest information, free from technology.

**Runciman** (John F.). Wagner. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6¼", pp. viii. + 94., *ports.* Price 1s. net.

A brief, but comprehensive, life of Richard Wagner, the composer (1813-1883), with a critical estimate of his works, forming a volume in Bell's "Miniature Series of Musicians."

**Standing** (Percy Cross) *ed.* Memorials of old Hertfordshire. London: Bemrose & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8¾", pp. x. + 180, *illustr.* Price 15s. net.

Contains chapters by various contributors on the general history, churches, religious houses, mansions, worthies, folk-lore, and archæology of Herts.

A well-illustrated work on some of the most notable events, localities, and features of Hertfordshire, including Hertford Castle, St. Albans, Ware, Waltham Cross, Hatfield, Rye House and its plot, the great bed of Ware, Sopwell, etc.

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**Hull Museum Publications.** Mr. Thomas Sheppard sends us the issues of this year, five in number. Each is a wonderful penny-worth and deserving of extensive circulation; The Roman Villa at Harpham (admirably illustrated), Hull Museum and Education (with a syllabus of popular lectures), and Records of Additions (three numbers) illustrated.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH OF THE LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION.

THE quarterly meeting of the North-Western Branch of the Library Association, was held at the Bury Library on 12th. Oct. There was a good attendance, among the members of the Association present being Councillor Abbott, of Manchester (who presided in the absence of Alderman Southern, president of the branch); Mr. H. Guppy, Rylands Library, Manchester; Mr. C. W. Sutton, Manchester; Mr. W. E. A. Axon, Manchester; Mr. Swann, Manchester; Mr. J. A. Green, Moss Side; Mr. G. T. Shaw, Athenæum, Liverpool; Mr. Peter Cowell, Liverpool; Mr. Archibald Sparke, Bolton; Mr. W. H. Berry, Oldham; Mr. J. W. Singleton, Accrington; Mr. J. Pomfret, Blackburn; Mr. Alexander Taylor, Bury; Mr. H. Townend, Bury; Mr. H. Shaw, Bury; Mrs. L. Wilde, Bury Co-operative; Mr. Charles Madeley, Warrington (hon. secretary); and many others. There was also present the Mayor of Bury (Alderman Butcher); the Mayor of Rawtenstall (Councillor Coupe); and many councillors. At the invitation of the members of the Library Committee the company sat down to tea and afterwards they adjourned to the D Gallery, where the meeting was held.

A hearty welcome was extended to the company by the Mayor.

## THE RATE LIMIT.

The Chairman introduced the question of the penny rate limit and strongly advocated its abolition. He pointed out that there were no restrictions upon the spending powers of other departments, and that being the case the restriction imposed upon the Library Committees was unjust. He also showed that the great differences in ratable value among towns of similar size gave rise to great disparities in the amounts that they were able to spend under the penny rate limit.

Mr. J. W. Singleton next read a paper on bookbinding.

Mr. Archibald Sparke read a paper on "The Technical Library: its proper place." He contended that the proper place for the technical libraries provided by Education Committees was in the Public Libraries, where they would be accessible to the students of the school as well as to the larger public. He animadverted upon the injustice of a limited user of books provided at great cost out of public funds. He also spoke of the use that a trained librarian could be to the technical student.

An interesting paper giving an account of library work in Bury and of the rise of the Art Gallery, written by Mr. Townend, was taken as read, a printed copy in pamphlet form having been placed in the hands of each person present.

## BURY BIBLIOGRAPHY.

A note on "Bury Bibliography" was read by Mr. J. A. Green, who afterwards handed over to Mr. Townend several small books, pamphlets, and maps which he had brought to illustrate his note.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was passed on the motion of Mr. C. W. Sutton, seconded by Councillor Sharp,

## NORTH MIDLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE 56th regular and the 16th annual meeting of the North Midland Library Association was held in Nottingham, on the afternoon and evening of October 5th, when there was a good attendance of librarians and other members from various parts of Notts, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, and Leicestershire. The business consisted principally of the presenting and reception of various reports, the election of officers, the reading of papers, besides other business of a routine character. The meeting was held in the University College and the Mechanics' Institution under the presidency of Mr. Corns, F.R.H.S., of Lincoln, and Mr. Gerring, F.R.H.S., of Nottingham, the retiring and incoming presidents. The newly-elected officers are: President, Mr. Charles Gerring, F.R.H.S., vice-president, Mr. J. T. Radford, F.R.H.S., hon. secretary for the twelfth consecutive year, Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, F.R.S.L., hon. treasurer, Mr. A. Lineker; auditor, Mr. S. J. Kirk; representative to the Library Association, Mr. Gerring. The literary papers read were on "The Howitt Family," by Mr. Radford; and on George Eliot's "Mill on the Floss," by Mr. S. J. Kirk. The proceedings of the Cambridge meeting of the Library Association were reported by Messrs. Crowther and Gerring. Three new members were elected. A special vote of thanks was accorded Mr. J. Potter Briscoe for his long-continued services as president and honorary secretary for a period of fifteen years.

## BRISTOL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

ON Oct. 4th a meeting of the Bristol and Western District Branch of the Library Association was held at Bath. A large party went from Bristol in the afternoon, and they were welcomed at the Grand Pump Room by Mr. T. Sturge Cotterell (president-elect) and other residents of the city. The Roman Bath was visited, and its antiquities were described by Mr. Sturge Cotterell. Afterwards tea was served at the Bath, and then a visit was paid to the Reference Library and the Municipal Art Gallery in the Guildhall.

At a meeting held subsequently in the old Council Chamber, the Guildhall, the report of the Council was read by Mr. Acland Taylor, and it stated that the total membership now was eighty.

The President delivered an address, in which he afforded a glimpse of the libraries that existed in Bath years ago, particularly in the eighteenth century, when the city was the rendezvous of many eminent men and women. Some interesting gossiping details were afforded, and a mass of information respecting the literature of Bath was given in a comparatively small compass.

Mr. L. Acland Taylor, deputy city librarian of Bristol, read a paper, entitled "Some Bibliographical Aids in the Public Libraries of Bristol." The writer, after apologising for introducing so many works with which his hearers would be already acquainted, excused their introduction on the grounds that memory might be revived, and that some stray fact might perchance be new and serviceable. After stating that no work would be mentioned which was not included in one or other of the Public Libraries of Bristol, he went on to say that the science of bibliography might be divided into two main divisions, the one having to do with form, the other with substance. The first dealt with the external characteristics of books, their forms, prices, and rarity, with typographical details, including name of printer, date, and place of publication—that was termed material bibliography. The second division explained the substance or contents of books, and by its aid, books classified by subject. That as distinctive from material, was termed literary bibliography. After stating that the paper made no attempt to separate material from literary bibliography further than was indicated by the title of a work, the writer remarked it would seem appropriate to give the place of honour to "The British Museum Catalogue of Printed Books." That grand work, with its supplement just completed, might be termed the backbone of the science of bibliography. Every book in the vast collection of the British Museum, down to the year 1900, was there set out with all details necessary to its identification. The 400 parts, minus the supplement (just completed), had been bound into fifty-two neat buckram volumes, and it might be said, without fear of contradiction, that they were the most frequently used folios in the libraries. Here, under names renowned in literary history, might be found a practical bibliography which one might in vain seek elsewhere.

No bibliographical collection could be considered complete without an edition of Brunet. Its plan afforded all the advantages of a dictionary and classed catalogue, and as a practical work of reference, whether to the bibliographer or to the student, it was the most complete dictionary yet published on so comprehensive a scale. Five editions had been published between 1810 and 1865. The edition in the Bristol collection was the one in five volumes—1842-44. Ames's "Typographical Antiquities" appeared in 1749, and was supported by the leading antiquaries and printers of the day.

A successful and useful meeting terminated with the usual votes of thanks.

## BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of this Association was held on Wednesday, Sept. 27th, at Handsworth. The Librarians of Wolverhampton, Worcester, Oldbury, Aston Manor, West Bromwich, and Handsworth, with Mr. Walter Powell and other members of the Central Library staff (Birmingham) and the librarians of several of the Birmingham Branches, were present, and after visiting the works of Messrs. J. Walsh Walsh, Lodge Road, and inspecting the various processes of glass-blowing and manufacture, glass cutting, etc., in which great interest was manifested by the visiting members, the meeting was held at the Council House, Handsworth, by permission of the General Purposes Committee of the Council. Councillor H. Guest (Aston Manor), president of the Association, took the chair, and an interesting paper was read by Mr. A. G. Burt (Handsworth) on the rise and development of the Newspaper Press, at the close of which Mr. Burt took up the cudgels on behalf of the News Room (in reply to the attacks made upon this branch of library work at the recent meeting of the Library Association at Cambridge). In the discussion which followed, reference was made to the antiquity of the "Birmingham Journal" and "Aris's Gazette" as well as other midland journals, and much interesting information was elicited as to the condition of the files of some of these papers in the various town libraries. Mention was made of the only existing sheet of the old "Birmingham Journal," which is preserved in the office of the *Daily Post*, and a strong desire was expressed that this interesting relic of the journalism of the fourth decade of the 18th century should ultimately find a resting place in the Reference Library.

The question of affiliating with the Library Association was again discussed, and it was decided that for the present no action should be taken. The next meeting was fixed to be held at Aston Manor, in October, on the invitation of the president.

## LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

ELEVENTH SESSION, 1905-06.

## MICHAELMAS TERM.

October 18th. 8.0 p.m. LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS. Inaugural Meeting.

**Inaugural Address by Thomas J. Macnamara, Esq., M.P., LL.D.** "The Relation of the Public Library to Public Education."

Dr. Macnamara prepared and suggested a list of books which ought to be the nucleus of the juvenile branch of every Public Library.



- November 16th. 7.30 p.m. PUBLIC LIBRARY, CHURCH STREET, STOKE NEWINGTON, N.  
 7.30. **Junior** paper: **D. J. Bayley**, *Bromley Library, Poplar*. "Counter Work."  
 8.15. **Senior** papers: (1) **James D. Stewart**, *Croydon Central Reference Library*. "School Libraries." (2) **Henry T. Coutts**, *Croydon Central Lending Library*. "Work amongst Children in the Library."
- December 6th. 7.30 p.m. CENTRAL PUBLIC LIBRARY, HORNSEY, N.  
 7.30. **Junior** paper: **Archibald Hatcher**, *Public Library, Stratford, West Ham*. "Stocktaking Methods."  
 8.15. **Senior** paper: **J. G. Faraday**, *Sub-Librarian, Hornsey*. "Weeding out." Opener: **Evan G. Rees**, *Public Library, Great Smith Street, W.*

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#### LENT AND SUMMER TERM.

- January 17th. 7.30 p.m. PUBLIC LIBRARY, CANNING TOWN, E.  
 7.30. **Junior** paper: **Ernest J. Bell**, *Central Library, Fulham*. "Newsrooms: Their Requirements and Service."  
 8.15. **Senior** paper: **Charles F. Newcombe**, *Camberwell Public Libraries*. "Library Lectures and Extension Work."
- February 21st. 7.30 p.m. BROMLEY LIBRARY, POPLAR, E.  
 7.30. **Junior** paper: **Henry A. Twort**, *Croydon Central Lending Library*. "Library Stationery and Stores."  
 8.15. **Senior** papers: (1) **W. Benson Thorne**, *District Librarian, Bromley, E.* "Aids to Readers: Printed and Mechanical." (2) **W. R. B. Prideaux, B.A.**, *The Library, Royal College of Physicians*. "Personal Relations between Staff and Readers."
- March 14th. CENTRAL LIBRARY, TOWN HALL, CROYDON.  
 7.30. **Junior** paper: **John Warner**, *Croydon Central Reference Library*. "First Years of Reference Work."  
 8.15. **Senior** papers: (1) **William J. Harris**, *Librarian, Stroud Green Library, Hornsey, N.* "The Planning of an Ideal Library: A Utopian Forecast." (2) **W. C. Berwick Sayers**, *Sub-Librarian, Croydon*. "Contrasts in Planning."
- April 18th. 7.30. CENTRAL LIBRARY, LAVENDER HILL, BATTERSEA.  
 7.30. **Senior** paper: **Philip C. Bursill**, *Assistant Librarian, Woolwich*. "The Treatment of Periodical Publications."  
 8.30. **Impromptu**. Certain (unprepared) members will be called upon to discuss some of the following questions in five-minute speeches. Their remarks will be discussed by the meeting.  
 Should libraries be opened on Sundays.  
 Do you think borrowers' application forms should have a guarantor's signature?  
 Can a library be worked successfully without fines?  
 What do you consider a fair time sheet in an average Public Library?  
 What is the greatest problem you have found in librarianship?

- Supposing "Open Access" is applied experimentally in a library, to which department should it be applied—Reference or Lending? What form of catalogue do you advocate, and why? Is there any reason why students should not be allowed to borrow as many books as they require at one time? What study (other than technical librarianship) do you consider of most value to an assistant? Should branch library assistants work permanently at the branch, or should all the staff work through the branches by rotation? Are you in favour of smoking rooms attached to Public Libraries? How would you deal with overdues?

May 17th. PUBLIC LIBRARY, WEST HILL, WANDSWORTH, S.W.

7.30 p.m. **Junior** paper: **George R. Bolton**, *South Branch Library, Fulham*. "Work at the Shelves: a Day in an Open Access Library."

8.15. **Senior** papers: (1) **Sydney A. Hatcher**, *Librarian Canning Town, Library, E.* "Branch Libraries" (2) **Frank Dallimore**, *Sub-Librarian, Wimbledon Public Library*. "Branch Libraries."

June 20th. **ANNUAL MEETING.**

2.30. Assemble at BRITISH MUSEUM. By the kindness of **G. K. Fortescue, Esq.**, *Keeper of the Printed Books*, the members will be received and conducted through the Library.

5.15. ST. BRIDE INSTITUTE, BRIDE LANE, E.C.  
Counting of the Ballot for Committee.

6.15. Special **Provincial** paper: **Walter Powell**, *Sub-Librarian, Birmingham*. Discussion.

8.15. **Business Meeting.**

This admirable programme, perhaps the best ever prepared by the L.A.A., reflects the highest credit on Mr. Sayers, and those who were associated with him in its preparation. The main features deserving attention are the visits to various libraries, and receptions by their librarians and chairmen of committees, and the wise effort to draw forth the quality of the junior assistant. The programme is almost wholly the work of library assistants, and the variety of subjects shows that they are fully alive to the importance of scientific work and advanced methods. We heartily congratulate the L.A.A. on its excellent work.

The inaugural meeting of the session was held on October 18th, when a most instructive and helpful address on "The Relation of the Public Library to Public Education," was delivered by Dr. Macnamara, M.P. The chair was occupied by Mr. Henry R. Tedder, F.S.A., Librarian of the Athenæum, and there was a record attendance of members and friends.

Dr. Macnamara, in his address, advocated a closer relationship between the library and the school, and suggested many ways in which Public Libraries could assist in training and developing the minds of the juvenile portion of the population. Dr. Macnamara had also prepared, and submitted to the meeting, a list of books which, in his opinion, ought to form the nucleus of the juvenile section of every Public Library.

## THE PSEUDONYMS.

AN extraordinary general meeting of the Pseudonyms was held the other night on the requisition of L'Assommoir, who had previously moved, seconded, and unanimously carried a resolution binding the members to appear in costume suitable to the pseudonym each had adopted. The effect was astounding. Sometimes the scene suggested a pantomime, sometimes a marine store; but in general it was a happy blend between Covent Garden and Petticoat Lane. The flesh tints were, for the most part, as, owing to their experience of rouge and burnt cork being restricted to colouring annual reports and blackening other matters, the members could not quite master these materials when applied to themselves. L'Assommoir himself was tremendous. He was set up as a gigantic mouse-trap, from which bottles of absinthe, vermouth, and vin ordinaire hung in rich profusion. In keeping with the character, L'Assommoir was slightly mellow. Rob Roy assured members when he could be heard above the roars of laughter which greeted his appearance, that his kilt was supposed to be made from the best Bannockburn unshrinkable tartan, which ought not to have behaved so eccentrically. He stated, moreover, that when coming along in the 'bus, he was forced to wrap up his knees in a muffler for fear of arrest, and asked if anyone present could lend him a pair of breeks. Whereupon L'Assommoir declared that, if a librarian chose to assume a national costume on the cheap, so that his skirts became like those of a *première danseuse*, he must take the consequences. Ivanhoe looked fairly presentable, save where the black lead had been rubbed off his tin armour by his falchion getting between his legs, and the manner in which he had been bumped for ten miles in a four-wheeler. He thus looked somewhat piebald, and as his vizor had also skinned his nose, his ill-tempered remark about Rob Roy coming in a 'bus, like a parsimonious Scot, when others came in cabs, was perhaps justifiable. As it happened, all the others came in cabs, save Boscobel, who, being attired as a Jack-in-the-green to resemble the Royal Oak, had to travel in a brake-van on the railway, and thence in a pantechnicon. The great Paladin, Orlando Furioso, was furious in reality, in a pair of wash-leather tights which had burst here and there, and which no artifice in the adjustment of his putties or leg bands could conceal. His wig of long horsehair was too bushy for the winged helmet he wore, which gave a general appearance to the *ensemble* of a limpet on a haystack. His magic horn was manifestly a bugle borrowed from a friend in a volunteer band, and his gleaming brand was evidently fashioned out of a lath covered with tin-foil, as was apparent at the point, which had snapped off as he turned a corner. He declared that the climate in Charlemagne's days must have been a sight warmer than it was now, as Orlando, however hardy, could never have braved the rigours of the Pyrenees in such an infernally draughty costume. To his mind, it appeared that all those blessed vikings, paladins, heroes, knights, and so forth, who were pictured as prancing around in gauzy tights and cotton putties, must have enjoyed a climate more like Central Africa than London in 1905. He gave notice that at the next

meeting he would change his pseudonym from Orlando Furioso to Flames, as then he could on another occasion appear in a costume consisting of burning spirits of wine. On this, No Name said he would move as an amendment that the name be Bombastes Furioso. Uncle Remus presented rather a remarkable appearance by confining his burnt-cork decorations to his face only. The result was that his noble cranium rose conspicuously up like the roc's egg in "Sindbad the Sailor," and he was immediately dubbed "black and white." Tartarin of Tarascon had donned a lion's skin, evidently forgetful of Æsop's fable and the fact that Tartarin really shot a donkey. One of the most attractive figures was Gil Blas, who was clad in a plum-coloured doublet and a pair of trunk hose of the proper period. He rather spoiled the effect by wearing a Masonic apron, but justified his action by asserting that Gil Blas did not live in 1905, and that he *really, really* could not give full effect to the costume. It is not necessary to describe all the other members who turned out on the occasion, and the merest reference must suffice to Stepping Heavenward, equipped with wings and an extensible ladder, and the Invisible Man cooped up in a roll-top desk.

The proceedings were chiefly devoted to a comic interlude by L'Assommoir, which he called his Impressions of America. His principal impressions were : (1) All commercial Americans are gamblers, and play poker incessantly ; (2) their chief conversational expletive is the word "hell," spoken with immense nasal effect ; (3) prices are awful ; (4) the grub is poor ; (5) and, finally, half of the American prosperity is sheer bounce, and the other half depends upon European immigration and custom. L'Assommoir even denounced the great card-indexing boom, which he stated had been "found out" by the Americans themselves. In support of this he declaimed the following verses, which he stated incidentally he had composed on the Atlantic, when it was in a less turbulent mood than usual:—

"Oh, isn't it great to be 'up to date'!  
 And live in this year of grace,  
 With a system and place for everything,  
 Though nobody knows the place!  
 We've an index card for each thing we do,  
 And everything under the sun:  
 It takes so long to fill out the cards  
 We never get anything done.  
 We've loose-leaf ledgers for saving time,  
 The Lord knows what they cost!  
 When half our time is spent each day  
 Hunting for leaves that are lost.  
 Stenographers who spell like —  
 And make us swear and cuss,  
 When we are not dictating to them,  
 Why, they are dictating to us.  
 And sectional this and sectional that  
 (We'll soon have sectional legs);  
 I dreamt last night that I made a meal  
 Of sectional ham and eggs.

I dreamt I lived in a sectional house,  
 And rode a sectional 'hoss,'  
 And drew my pay in sections from  
 A sectional 'section-boss.'  
 Oh, isn't it great to be 'up to date,'  
 And live in this year of grace,  
 With a system and place for everything,  
 Though nobody knows the place!"

The discussion on this subject was too long for insertion here, but briefly it was in such terms as "DITTO, DITTO," "*Hear, Hear,*" "*HEAH, HEAH,*" "*GO IT,*" &c. The Pirate, however, who was frightful to behold, in a home-made corsair's costume, copied from the *Boys of England*, upset L'Assommoir's complacency by positively asserting that he had seen the poem quoted in the *Stationery Trades Journal* for September, 1905. On this L'Assommoir rather ingeniously hedged by pointing out that the mere printing of the verses was no *proof* that he did not compose them.

A lively altercation took place at the close of the meeting between Rob Roy, Orlando Furioso and Gil Blas, as to who should take refuge in Boscobel's discarded Jack-in-the-green costume, so as to procure the protection of the pantehnicon going home. This was finally settled by all three going off in it, and being delivered separately at their own homes.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—With regard to your suggestion on page twenty-three of the July number; though not a librarian I spoke at the first meetings of the Library Association in London many years ago. I should like to mention a book which I think has been much overlooked by librarians. That is:—England and America after independence, a short examination of their international intercourse, 1783-1872, by Edward Smith. 1900, 8°, pp. iv. 397 and 1.

*The Athenæum* (2nd June, 1900) said:—"Mr. Smith has hit upon a good subject and has mastered it."

The author is known by his "*William Cobbett, a biography.*" He has just compiled the index of forty thousand references to Mr. W. Prideaux Courtney's "*Register of National Bibliography.*"

Yours truly,

RALPH THOMAS.

## BOOK DESCRIPTION.

By JAMES DUFF BROWN, *Borough Librarian, Islington.*

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(Continued from page 90.)

## II.

The Pagination of Books is important, as the chief guide to their completeness and order. Early books were not paged, and it is usual to collate them by means of watermarks, catchwords, signatures and other features in order to ascertain their perfection or imperfection.

Numbered pages begin about 1470, and are used in a very irregular manner till the end of the 15th century, after which the practice becomes general. There are various methods of numbering the pages of books, but it is customary to find the numbers at the top left hand corner of the back of a printed page, where the even numbers are called *verso* by bibliographers; and at the top right hand corner on the *recto* or front or right hand page of an open book. They are also to be found in the middle of the page, either at the top or bottom, and in many cases, in works like dictionaries, the pages are not numbered at all. The number of pages in a book is generally given in bibliographical descriptions to indicate its bulk and to make an exact record of its contents. As in most books all introductory matter is separately paged in Roman numerals, it is customary to indicate the pagination thus, counting all leaves between the end-papers, whether numbered or not:—

pp. viii + 396.

The old-fashioned bibliographers go a step further, and specify the leaves and contents in detail like this:—

(1) Title within a woodcut border; (2) blank; (3-6) preface; (7-290) the work. *Colophon*, &c.

The only reasons which would justify such minuteness of description would be the existence of hundreds of copies of the same work, each differing in its make-up; the existence of many identical books; or the need for guarding some intending purchaser from the fraudulent designs of a rapacious bookseller.

Closely connected with pagination are the catchwords and signatures used in ancient and modern books. Catchwords are those single words printed at the bottom of a printed page, to indicate the first word on the succeeding page. They are to be found in books of all dates, and though now only a convention or tradition, they were originally introduced about 1469 as a guide to the binder, and as a method of securing an accurate progression of pages and matter. They are used in legal documents at the present time.

Signatures are the letters or figures printed on the first page of a sheet or section of a book, as a guide to the binder. They are not necessarily guides to the size of books, as in the older ones the signatures will be found in a rotation which shows that they had no connection with sizes.

Volume VIII. No. 90. December, 1905.

In modern books, however, the signatures are generally an accurate guide to the folding, and in 8vos., a regular progression of a's, b's, c's, etc., will be found on every sixteen pages or eight leaves. Other signs are the same: the signature in true quartos appears on every fourth leaf or eighth page, and in folios, on the second leaf or fourth page. Save for purposes of collation, the signatures of books are of little consequence. They were intended for the convenience of the binder, before page numbering became universal, and are now used, where old books are concerned, as an aid to collation. The old printers used to insert registers of sheet signatures for the guidance of binders, and some of these have been preserved.

The sizes of books are determined by the number of folios into which a certain sheet of paper is divided.

In old books, the watermarks and wire-lines on the paper, are useful as aids to description, though more often their utility lies in the check they afford for collation purposes. In collating an unpagged book, the watermarks and their position and regular and unbroken progression, are almost the sole guides to the completeness of a book, unless the collator actually reads it through page by page.

A great deal of trouble has been expended by various bibliographers in the vain effort to make paper-mill names for papers fit the actual sizes of books. The variations are so great, however, that the task is made practically impossible, apart from which, there is very little utility in going beyond the names of folio, quarto and octavo to indicate the sizes of books. I agree entirely with the late Henry Bradshaw, that the only satisfactory system of size-nomenclature is one which recognizes actual dimensions in inches or centimetres, as well as such arbitrary names as Royal folio, Post quarto, Crown octavo, &c. He recommended the use of the symbols fo., 4°, 8°, 12°, 32°, followed by a figure indicating the height in inches, and, if necessary, another to show the width of the book. Thus—

fo. 18    4° 11 × 9    8° 9    12° 5, &c.

Nothing could be simpler than this, or more satisfactory as a method of conveying to the eye and mind, a concrete idea of the size or height of a volume.

The collation of books relates to the method of checking them by means of the characteristics we have been considering—Author, Title, Place of Publication, Date of Publication, Printers or Publishers, Number of Volumes, Sizes, Pagination, Contents as regards illustrations and other extras, and even such external matters as binding. The word is also applied to the actual work of checking the make-up of a book to see if it is complete. It is not always the practice in Public Libraries to make a careful collation of every book which is added, although every valuable work is glanced over to make sure it is perfect. Book-collectors of all kinds have to protect themselves from the rogueries of certain sordid persons who sell or forge books, and careful collation is a very necessary safeguard. For books issued in modern days, which are generally pagged throughout, with lists of contents, plates, &c.,

a comparatively brief collation will suffice. In books which are unopened, it is a very simple matter to see if they are perfect by running over the sheet signatures and contents leaves.

If works have portraits or other plates, not recorded in the preliminary leaves, they should be recorded in writing. Similarly, if there is a statement on the title-page to the effect that a book contained maps and illustrations, but none were there, it would be the duty of the collator to note the fact. In a recent work of African travel issued by Messrs. Pearson, it is stated on the title-page that it contains maps. There are no maps, however, and Messrs. Pearson admit it was an error on their part to print the statement in the title. Should a correct title be issued for this work, and it is afterwards compared with the original one the suspicion will at once be aroused that both books are imperfect. A defect of this kind should invariably be noted. So in a new edition of the theatrical history entitled "Their Majesty's Servants," published by Messrs. Nimmo, in which there are many fine portrait plates but no list, a manuscript list of plates and the page where they are situated should be inserted. It is a miserable business having to make good the deficiencies of booksellers and publishers in this way, but it is absolutely necessary if perfect copies of books are to be secured.



## LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

*By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, Croydon Public  
Libraries.*

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(Continued from page 94.)

### VII. READING LISTS.

53. Next to the annotated periodical catalogue of additions, the reading list is the most important feature in the contents of a library magazine. Not only does the reading list offer unrivalled facilities for bringing before the public the literature of a particular subject, but it also affords much appreciated evidence that the library is a going concern, and fully awake to the developments of the hour. When a reader perceives that a library is ready at a moment's notice with a properly descriptive guide to the literature of the subject in which he and his neighbours are then interested, the institution forthwith goes up considerably in his estimation. It has been proved from actual experience that wherever the issue of frequent topical reading lists has been introduced, there has been an improvement in the character of the reading and enhanced public interest. Notwithstanding the value of the reading list, and the rapidly increasing number of libraries employing them, hardly anything has been written on the subject. With the



exception of a short article by Mr. Stewart in the *Library Assistant* for November, 1904, nothing has been published on the practical side of the matter; and a glance at Mr. Brown's "Annotated Syllabus" will reveal the paucity of information of any sort. As, therefore, the reading list forms such an important item in modern library work, and as a library magazine is undoubtedly the best medium of publicity, the present code of rules has been prepared.

54. Following our previous method, all discussion has been eliminated from the code; therefore, before setting out the rules, it will be necessary to consider briefly the purpose and general arrangement of the reading list. Primarily the reading list is topical. It is designed to guide the reader in the choice of books dealing with a current topic. Secondly, it is a guide to the choice of books on any topic. Its work is entirely beyond the scope of ordinary catalogue work, for no catalogue could ever attain the comprehensiveness on special topics that is possible with the reading list. But while the list should be comprehensive in character and complete in itself, it is neither necessary nor desirable that it should be an epoch-making bibliography of the subject. It is essentially a properly arranged *selection* of titles. If the subject is a fairly large one, and everything dealing with it be included, the reader, instead of being helped and guided by the list, is bewildered by the plenitude of matter. This is where the lists issued by some libraries fail properly to achieve their purpose. They consist of a long list of books arranged under the authors' names without any attempt at either arrangement or analysis. Such a list is absolutely useless as a reading list: it gives no more information than an indifferently compiled catalogue. But we will return to the principles of arrangement later.

55. As to the subjects upon which reading lists may be compiled there is not much difference of opinion. As mentioned above, the reading list is primarily topical. Every week some new question engages public attention, and each of these forms a legitimate subject for a list. Even were the lists confined to such topical subjects, there would be plenty of material to work upon; but there are other subjects which should be given attention. For example, if the Library Authority wishes to co-operate with the University Extension body, a very good way is to prepare reading lists on the subjects dealt with by the lecturers. It has been found that such lists are highly appreciated, and are productive of excellent results. Then there are subjects of local interest, upon which lists should be prepared as a matter of course. Finally, there are subjects of permanent value, upon which lists are always welcome. The choice of a subject is largely a matter of discretion; the cardinal point to remember is that it should be one that is alive at the moment.

56. The majority of the lists issued at present are compiled upon the plan mentioned above: namely, a bare author list of books, unclassified and unannotated. To imagine that such a list would be of anything but the barest possible value to a reader would be entirely to

misunderstand the character and scope of the reading list. Except to the person who has made a special study of the subject, and who knows exactly which authors to look for (and for whom, by the way, the list is of little value), this arrangement is no arrangement at all. It is simply an accidental sequence, just as much as if the entries were numbered at random and then arranged in numerical order. For, after all, it *is* an accident that the name of an author who writes the best books on a given subject should begin with an "A" rather than a "B" or a "C." And how is any ordinary reader to know that the book containing what he wants to know about the Far East is to be found under "D"? The consequence is that, with an alphabetical list, the user has to read through every entry in order to discover those of use to him. If an arbitrary arrangement *must* be employed, the best is the chronological one, as this at least shows the historical development of the subject. The list must be so arranged as to be equally useful to the student of the subject and to the man who simply wants to know something about it. Therefore all essential information must be given briefly, and arranged clearly. Now, as the user is in search of references on a particular subject or part of a subject, it stands to reason that the general arrangement must be by subjects and parts of subjects; in other words, the list must be classified.

57. Having decided to classify the list, as much should be got out of the classification as possible. It will be found that every list will fall into several definite parts, and these form a good basis to work on. It does not matter whether these divisions or sub-divisions correspond with the divisions of the library's classification. They are quite arbitrary, and should be selected to suit the particular subject under treatment. They should be as definite and, within reasonable limits, as minute as possible. Two examples of this splitting up of a subject, taken from published reading lists, are appended:—

## OUT-OF-DOOR BOOKS.

Bibliography.  
 Nature Books.  
 Botany.  
 Zoology.  
   Birds.  
   Insects.  
     Butterflies and Moths.  
 Sports and Pastimes.  
   Cycling.  
   Cricket.  
   Golf.  
   Boating, etc.  
   Angling.  
   Horsemanship & Racing.

## LONDON.

Bibliography.  
 History and Description.  
   General.  
     Guides and Atlases.  
   Civic History.  
   Heraldry.  
   Archæology.  
   Bayswater.  
   Belgravia.  
   Bermondsey.  
   Bloomsbury.  
   [*And so on through districts.*]  
 Natural History.  
 Religion.  
 Education.  
 Social & Industrial London.  
 Literary London.

Within each of the above headings there is a more minute subject-grouping of the entries, which is, of course, not shown in the headings.

58. Wherever possible, the arrangement of the subject headings of the classification adopted should be from general to special. This ensures that references to general works reviewing the whole of the subject, and therefore answering the requirements of the greater number of readers, are given first, and that references to other works follow in the order of their comprehensiveness. This sequence should be followed throughout, both in the arrangement of the classification headings and in the grouping of references under the headings.

59. Regarding the collection of material, no doubt most of our readers have methods of their own. However, it may not be amiss to indicate several useful guides. Most libraries have a collection of special bibliographies, and these, of course, would be consulted first. Many exceedingly useful bibliographies are given at the end of the articles in *Encyclopædia Britannica* and *Chambers's Encyclopædia*. Then very often bibliographies are given in books dealing with special subjects, and two indexes to these are Mr. Courtney's *Register*, and the *List of Special Bibliographies* issued by the John Crerar Library. Then Mr. Fortescue's *Subject Index* and the *A.L.A. Index* are well-known guides, while for magazine articles there are the *Review of Reviews* index, the *American Index to Periodicals*, and the ponderous volumes of Poole. Of course, in a classified library, a large number of references would be ready to hand without any trouble, and the same applies to well-catalogued collections.

#### RULES FOR THE COMPILATION OF READING LISTS.

##### ENTRIES.

60. Entries need not be in absolute catalogue form if, by varying them in any way, clearness in arrangement or explanation is gained.
61. Authors' names may, as a rule, be curtailed to surnames only, but whenever there are several authors of the same surname, or when a complete name has become familiar through long usage, the Christian names may be added.  
 Thus: **Sala's** "Twice Round the Clock."  
**Thornbury's** "Old London."  
 but **Leigh Hunt's** "Old Court Suburb."  
**Sir Walter Besant's** "South London."
62. Authors' names if given in full need not be inverted.
63. Titles may, as a rule, be cut down much more than in catalogue entries. Main titles will generally be sufficient, leaving other titular information to be used as explanation. Thus, a catalogue entry:

**Smith, John.** "Drury Lane and Neighbourhood: the London Housing Problem in the Nineteenth Century"

may be turned into

The Housing Problem in London about 1820 is dealt with in **Smith's** "Drury Lane and Neighbourhood."

64. Abbreviations should, wherever possible, be dispensed with, but the catalogue rules of the library should be followed.

#### ARRANGEMENT.

65. The reading list must be classified and annotated.
66. The arrangement of the classification headings must be regulated by the subject dealt with, but the general arrangement should be: first, bibliography (or references to other lists of the literature of the subject); then the general heads of the classification should be arranged in the order of general first, working down to the most special headings. *E.g.*, headings under "Out-of-Door Books" in § 57.
67. Within each heading, the entries should also fall into the general-to-special sequence: *e.g.*,

*From a Reading List on "Surrey."*

#### HISTORY.

##### GENERAL.

The standard history of the county is **Manning and Bray's** "History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey." 3 v. 1814.

But "The **Victoria History** of the County of Surrey," edited by H. E. Malden, will when completed be the fullest and most up-to-date work.

**Brayley and Britton's** "Topographical History of Surrey" (5 v., 1850) follows closely the lines of Manning and Bray.

And the oldest general work is **Aubrey's** "Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey." 5 v. 1719.

See also **Malden's** "History of Surrey" (1900), which gives an historical view of the county generally, but does not deal with the history of particular places.

**Jerrold's** "Surrey." 1901.

And **Lambert's** alphabetically arranged "Surrey," in the "Little Guides" ser.

All notes have been omitted from the above, as the general arrangement is shown clearly enough without them.

68. As in the above example, the entries should be divided into paragraphs according to their comprehensiveness; and a convenient and clear way to do this is to introduce the paragraph by the words "See," or "See also," or a phrase like "The best general works are," and to round it off with "And"; *e.g.*,

See also **Malden,**  
**Jerrold,**  
And **Lambert.**

#### ANNOTATION.

69. The rules for annotation in cataloguing given in our preceding article should be followed in the main for reading lists. The information given, however, need not be so general as in a catalogue where the book annotated is a complete unit in itself. In the reading list the book is only a small part of a united whole, and should therefore be treated from that point of view, and annotated in relation to the complementary books and for any very specific information it contains.

#### JUVENILE READING LISTS.

70. In the chapter on Cataloguing, we advocated a simplified form of catalogue for the use of juvenile readers. The same arguments hold good in the case of reading lists, and librarians who are developing library work with children will find this an excellent method of arousing and maintaining interest. Rules for the compilation of such lists differ from the general ones only in the manner of application. In the juvenile reading list, everything must be simplified to meet the requirements of juvenile readers: everything must be simple and clear as possible, and abbreviations of any sort must be avoided.\*

In our next instalment we shall deal with bibliographical articles and other miscellaneous matters which form part of the contents of the library magazine.

(To be continued.)



## THE L.A. EXAMINATIONS: A CAUSERIE.

By T. E. TURNBULL, *Senior Assistant, Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Reference Library.*

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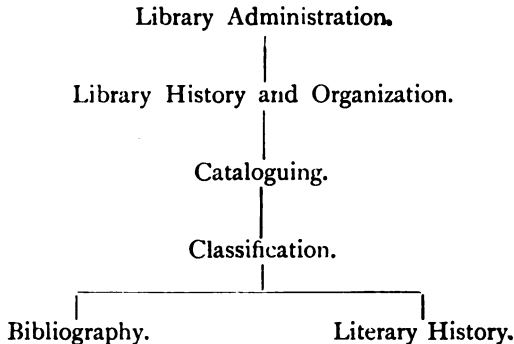
IN connection with the articles which have appeared recently in the *Library World* perhaps I may offer the following remarks with reference to the professional examination of the Library Association.

\* For an amplification of our suggestion on the subject of simplified catalogue work for juvenile readers, see "Catalogues for Children," by W. C. Berwick Sayers and James D. Stewart, in *The Library Association Record*, August, pp. 377-91. Many of the suggestions made there apply also to reading lists.

I suppose it must have occurred to those even superficially acquainted with the requirements of the syllabus that the different sections of the examination are very unequal. This inequality is inherent and, consequently, unavoidable. It is obvious, for instance, that the knowledge required to pass the examination in Literary History is of a more exact nature than is that needed to pass in Library Administration. In the latter subject *definiteness* is impossible; opinion must, in the nature of things, obtrude itself. Nobody can decide because the doctors disagree. Therefore, in nine cases out of ten, the candidate must submit entirely to the caprice of the examiner. On the other hand, to such a question as, "Give an account of the 'King's Quair' and its author," only one *correct* answer is possible.

It is well to point out, then, especially to the youthful mind, the relative difficulty of the respective subjects comprised in the L.A. scheme. Let not the assistant possessing a certificate in one of the—may I say 'easy'?—subjects look upon his less fortunate fellows as something akin to Kipling's "pore benighted 'eathen." If he forbear at that stage it is almost certain that he will not adopt such an attitude later, when, in preparing for a more exacting test, he finds that there is such an *unconscionable* lot to learn.

I should say that after a tolerably full acquaintance with the syllabus of the examinations one would be inclined to place the sections in something like the following order of progressive difficulty:—



This, then, constitutes the librarian's "tree" of knowledge as conceived by the Library Association.

I think it hardly admits of doubt that preparation for examination in the two subjects last mentioned involves the most arduous and sustained work. We might even liken the student unto a measure promoted by a Liberal Government, which, after passing safely through the House of Commons, goes through a process of attenuation or is rejected in its entirety by the House of Lords! Bibliography and Literary History, to my mind, constitute the Upper Chamber of the examinations.

Is it necessary or wise to remedy this disparity? I think it is. Surely it will not seriously be contended that 22 out of the 25 candidates who sat for the examination in Library History and Organization last May know, within reason, all there is to know about that subject. For, in the last analysis, it should be the object of the examiner to aim at such a result, whether he obtain it or no. Therefore I believe the scheme of the examination would be very greatly strengthened if subjected to a levelling-up treatment. This might very well consist in requiring a proportionately high standard in the different sections of the examination. Thus, if 70 per cent. of marks would pass a candidate in Section 1, let it be necessary to obtain 80 per cent. in Section 5, and so on.

To conclude, if I may intrude a somewhat personal note, I should like to mention the good that one cannot but obtain by the study necessary to gain the certificates of the Association. To dwell upon the fact that working systematically through the respective sections of the examinations is beneficial is to apotheosize the obvious.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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*[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department].*

**Barry: Cardiff.**—The new Central Public Library, which has been erected at the cost of £8,800, through the generosity of Dr. Carnegie, will be ready for opening in January.

**Birmingham.**—Hoping to encourage and increase the judicious use of the Public Libraries, Mr. Capel Shaw, Chief Librarian, has arranged, under the direction of the Free Libraries Committee of the City Council, a series of lectures at the Midland Institute. In each case special reference will be made to the books on the subject in the library. From the programme we judge that Mr. Shaw's aim should be attained.

**Bury: Lancs.**—The librarian, Mr. Harry Townend, reports a large increase in the number of books issued in the reference library, and draws attention to the manifest appreciation of the music library, which is becoming increasingly popular. We note also that three periodicals for the use of blind readers are now available on the reference room tables.

**Cardiff**—The library committee, acting largely on Mr. Ballinger's advice, decided not to accede to the request of a correspondent who urged the obliteration of betting news from the papers in the Public Library. As an attempt to cope with the betting-looter nuisance, it was decided to allow readers only limited time for perusal of particular papers.

**Castleton Moor.**—On November 4th the Public Library, built by Dr. Carnegie's aid, was opened, to the great satisfaction of the inhabitants of the village, which is now amalgamated with the Borough of Rochdale.

**Dublin : Marsh's Library,** founded in 1707, over fifty years earlier than the opening day of the British Museum and its library, is the subject of a column in *T.P.'s Weekly*, November 17th, wherein some interesting facts are given in relation to this oldest Public Library. The writer deploras the apathy of Irishmen in allowing Primate Marsh's library to remain so long at a standstill. The income from endowment is very small, but there are rich men in the county who might come to the rescue, and soon increase the collection far beyond its present total of 22,000 volumes, as well as add to its revenue.

**Dudley.**—Miss E. J. Southall's new catalogue of the books in her charge at the Public Library has received general commendation and the approval of the committee. The profits of the last Castle Fêtes, amounting to £202 10s. 8d., will accrue to the library building fund.

**Edinburgh : Morningside.**—The opening ceremony of this Branch Public Library, was performed on November 9th by Mr. John Harrison, chairman of the library committee, under the presidency of Lord Provost Sir R. Cranston. The building was designed by Mr. Morham, the City Architect, and cost £6,000. It contains a large lending department containing at present 6,300 volumes, and a commodious reading-room.

**Erdington.**—Judging from the illustration in *The Building News*, Mr. J. P. Osborne has designed a dignified exterior for the Public Library and Council House. Nearly £14,000 will be spent on the construction of the whole group of buildings.

**Falmouth.**—The new reading-room of the Public Subscription Library, for the use of ladies, was formally opened on November 6th by the Bishop of Ripon.

**Fochabers, N.B.**—In opening the new Public Library and Institute on October 27th, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon stated that in 1858 there existed an institution called the Gordon Library. In 1866 Mr. (now Sir) James Sivewright gave a lecture on telegraphy in aid of the institute funds. From that beginning of £16 they had now raised the handsome sum of £2,640, with the assistance of a bazaar and of Dr. Carnegie, and it was out of that money that the building was erected.

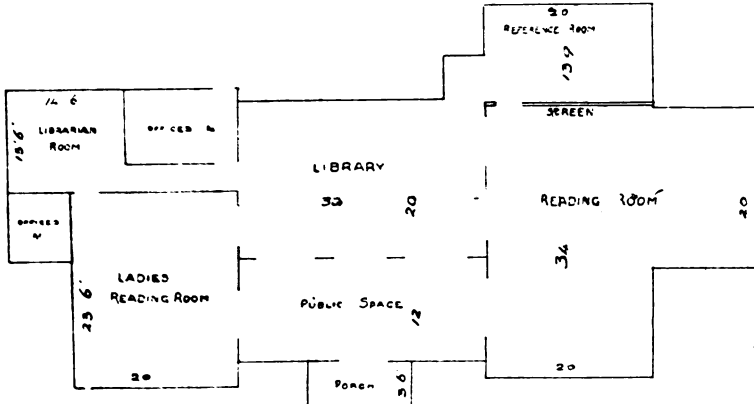
**Fraserburgh.**—The Public Library, opened by Lord Saltoun on October 23rd, has been built mainly by a grant from Dr. Carnegie of £3,000, and is a building well adapted for its purpose. Books are to be purchased as rapidly as funds will allow.

**Galashiels.**—Space for playing draughts and chess is to be provided in the committee room of the Public Library.

**Gosforth.**—For the present the Council will take no action with regard to the proposed formation of a Public Library.



**Gainsborough.**—In our last issue we referred to the opening of the Public Library, and are glad now to be able to present an illustration of the new building which has been well designed by Messrs. Scorer & Gamble, of Lincoln. The interior arrangement will be understood by this sketch plan of the ground floor.



GAINSBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The only weak point of this plan seems to be insufficient storage space for the books of a library which is certain to grow to large proportions in such a town as Gainsborough. Perhaps, however, space is provided for extension.

We note that Mr. James Marshall's gift towards the purchase of books amounts to the munificent sum of £5,000. As Mr. Neesham had but two months in which to accomplish the task we must congratulate him on having classified the books and issued a catalogue by the opening day.

**Hanwell.**—Mr. F. Pocock, the Librarian, has reported to the committee of the Public Library, the gift, by Mr. A. C. Black, F.R.G.S., of 302 volumes, for which the donor was heartily thanked.

Unless Dr. Carnegie, or some public-spirited local resident, comes to the rescue it is likely the lecture hall will remain unfurnished for want of funds, and the same lack stops the way of incurring the expense of the proposed Sunday evening opening.

**Hartlepool.**—Mr. J. S. Ord, the Librarian, gives a most satisfactory report of the first year's working of the Public Library, established in the borough by Dr. Carnegie's aid. It is pleasant to note that in addition to the work proper to a library, a collection of objects of local interest is being formed—drawings, prints, photographs, old deeds and any objects which may serve to maintain or increase interest in the relics of this interesting old town. By the way, we hope the Corporation is taking care that every scrap of the ancient town wall which has survived may be preserved. Such object lessons, when understood, teach more real history than all the books!



GAINSBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY.



**Haslingden.**—The Public Library was opened on November 4th. The old and well-known Institute has been merged in the new scheme, and the trustees of the former decided to give £2,900 towards the reconstruction and the completion of the Technical School and Library. Dr. Carnegie contributed £2,500.

**Hobart: Tasmania.**—The Arts and Crafts Library has been presented by Messrs. Angus & Robertson, of Sydney, with four valuable art works, likely to be of use to members.

**Hope.**—A Public Library has been established in connection with the Loxley Hall Rooms.

**Hornsey.**—On November 13th Dr. Brackenbury, Mayor of Hornsey, gave a thoughtful address on "The Use and Abuse of Public Libraries," from which much might be culled did our space permit. We can only note the following pointed remarks:—

"The idea of spending money on books for the sake of saying, 'We have so many thousand books in our library,' is one that ought not to be encouraged. In places where there are a number of Public Libraries at no distance from each other, I should like to suggest a system of specialization and co-operation, so that one library might be responsible for a first-class collection of books on one particular subject, and leave another library to maintain a first-class collection of books on another subject."

Indicating that discrimination was much needed in the selection of fiction, Dr. Brackenbury said:—

"There is the classic fiction which everyone would rejoice to see on the shelves of Public Libraries. Then there is the ephemeral fiction which ought to be on the shelves, but the third class of fiction is perfectly futile. The people who are catered for by the third and utterly useless class of fiction . . . are women. The works in that class are such as few men would ever touch, and it is a side of library work which is considerably overdone."

**Ilfracombe.**—On November 7th it was unanimously resolved by the Borough Council to rescind the resolution of August 6th, 1903, by which the Public Libraries Acts were adopted. Some strong views were expressed as to Dr. Carnegie's object in establishing libraries, thus creating "an everlasting incubus slung round the neck of the people." As over £500 has accumulated from the already levied library rates, it was determined to carry the amount to the borough suspense account. Dr. Carnegie's offer of £3,000 is therefore declined.

**Jedburgh.**—Mr. J. I. Hillson, the Librarian, is forming a portrait gallery, consisting of engravings, &c., of celebrities of the district, in the Public Library.

**Kendal.**—The number of people visiting the Public Library having been a doubtful quantity, it was recently determined to ascertain.

A sheet of paper has been ruled off into squares, each square holding five digits, and twelve squares to a line. For each person entering the Institution a digit is entered in a square, and so on until the completion of a line, giving sixty as a result. This is continued throughout each day, and at closing time it is a simple matter to total the sixties.

The result is gratifying, showing over 1,000 visits in a day.

**Liverpool.**—At the Central Public Library is a remarkable collection of local prints, water-colour sketches, official records, newspapers, and pamphlets believed to be unrivalled by any other city. By occasional exhibition the wealth of this collection can be estimated, but it will be more fully apparent when the catalogue is issued.

**London : Deptford.**—The temporary premises of the Central Library, 221, New Cross Road, the first Public Library to be established in the Borough of Deptford, were opened by the Mayor, Mr. J. Arthur Pync, on October 27th. A private house has been adapted for the purpose, and four reading rooms and a lending department, containing, 7,300 volumes are provided. It is proposed shortly to erect a central and two branch libraries, Dr. Carnegie having promised £18,000 for the buildings.

**London : Finsbury.**—The Public Library, opened in Radnor Street on November 1st, differs from most of our recent similar institutions inasmuch as it is not built by Dr. Carnegie's aid, and is not to burden the ratepayers ; the whole being the gift of the Cripplegate Governors.

**London : Greenwich.**—The Central Public Library was opened on November 4th by the Mayor of the borough, Mr. Donald McCall. For the building of this and a branch library Dr. Carnegie gave £13,000. The building is from the designs of Mr. Sydney Smith, F.R.I.B.A.

**London : Stepney : Mile End.**—The extension of the Public Library is steadily progressing, and it is intended to construct a lecture hall, as well as to add to the present accommodation in other departments.

**Manchester : The Portico Library** is the subject of a pretty pamphlet, sent to us by Mr. Ernest Marriott, the librarian. Though founded in 1806, this venerable institution still flourishes, notwithstanding the other libraries existing in the city, and that its subscription is £2 10s. per annum, and its membership limited to 400. The pamphlet, which is excellently produced, shows the comfortable accommodation provided ; reading-rooms, library and a smoking room, and is accompanied with a useful catalogue of works relating to architecture, being No. 1 of the "Portico Lists."

**Melton Mowbray.**—On October 26th the Public Library at Thorpe End was opened by Mr. William Wilcox, in place of the Marquis of Granby (who was prevented from attending by a slight accident), in the presence of a goodly number. The building was erected according to the designs of Mr. Edmund Jeeves, the architect, mainly by means of Dr. Carnegie's gift of £2,000. Mr. Silverwood, the Librarian at Grays, Essex, gave valuable assistance to the committee in organizing the library.

**Montrose.**—In our last issue we referred to the opening of the Public Library, the cost of which appears to have been greater than was expected, involving a debt of £1,100. Dr. Carnegie has come to the rescue, provided the sum, and thus made his total gift to £8,600.

**Naas, Ireland.**—On November 1st, the Earl of Mayo, in a broad-viewed speech (from which we should quote some gems but for lack of space), opened the rooms in the Town Hall, now devoted to the purposes of a Public Library, towards which Dr. Carnegie gave £600. Provision is already made for shelving some 8,000 volumes, but at present the stock is less than 1,000.

**Neath.**—The Public Library, designed by Mr. D. M. Jenkins, was opened, on November 7th, by the Mayor of Neath (Mr. Evans Bevan), who has generously given £1,000 towards the erection of the building. The late Miss M. Rowland bequeathed £2,000, and other friends have given smaller sums. The total expenditure on the building has been £4,100, and £300 worth of books have been purchased.

**Northwich.**—The Verdin Technical School Library has been enriched by Sir John Brunner's gift of 700 volumes to the collection.

**Norwich.**—That Mr. J. G. Tennant, the Librarian, is alive to the aid a Public Library can render to local interests, is evidenced by the issue of a leaflet list of books relating to the boot and shoe industry—an important feature of the trade of the old East Anglican city.

**Portsmouth : Fratton.**—At the laying of the foundation-stone of the Public Library, Mr. Tweed Jewers, the borough librarian of Portsmouth, placed local publications in a glass receptacle and deposited it in a hole prepared beneath the foundation-stone.

**Preston.**—Mr. W. S. Bramwell, the Borough Librarian, has recently given a lecture on "Books, Reading, and Study," which is described as being powerful, argumentative, and witty, and thoroughly appreciated.

**Rogerstone (Mon.).**—November 4th witnessed the opening, by Lord Tredegar, of the new Public Library, built by aid of Dr. Carnegie's gift of £1,400, on land presented by Lord Tredegar. The Library which has a frontage of 70-ft., is built of stone, and is well adapted for its purpose, was designed by Messrs. Swash and Bain, of Newport.

**Scalby.**—A Public Library has been established in the Temperance Hall of this Yorkshire village, mainly through the generosity of Mr. J. E. Ellis, M.P., who has undertaken to finance the library.

**Sevenoaks.**—On November 14th Lord Avebury opened the Public Library, erected at the cost of £3,000, given by Dr. Carnegie. The large assembly of people present at the opening ceremony had the rich treat of a characteristic speech by Lord Avebury, learned yet homely, witty yet serious, with many a "bit" we should like to quote.

**Shipley.**—Mr. E. Reynolds, Chairman of Committee, informed the District Council, on October 31st, that it is expected that the Public Library at Windhill will be ready for opening on January 1st.

**Waterford.**—Mr. Thomas Power has made an important proposal at a meeting of the County Council, suggesting that the County Council should acquire by purchase the rural courthouses in the county, and that, except for the day on which they would be devoted to the hearing of law cases, these buildings should be used as village libraries and centres

for lectures on subjects connected with technical instruction. It seems, however, that to attain their object it will be necessary to obtain an amendment of the Local Government Act. Mr. Power's proposal was adopted, and enquiry is to be made as to the necessary steps.

**Winnipeg.**—Someone has kindly sent a copy of the *Manitoba Free Press* of October 12 (it might have been despatched earlier, but we are much obliged to the unknown friend, all the same!), giving an account of the opening, by Earl Gray, of the Public Library in Winnipeg on October 11th. His Excellency duly acknowledged the debt of gratitude the city owes to Dr. Carnegie for his aid on the financial side, and in his speech gave, in attractive fashion, good advice as to the use of the opportunity now presented to rich and poor alike. Lady Evelyn, in the absence of her mother through illness, gracefully performed the ceremony of turning the key of the door of the new building, which is a suitable, solid erection of classic Italian style.

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**Mr. Wilfred E. Barnes'** portrait appeared in the *Municipal Journal*, November 10th, and is a good likeness of the Borough librarian of Greenwich. Mr. Barnes commenced his library career at Battersea in 1891 and in 1902 was appointed to the charge of the Manor House Library, Lewisham whence he now removes, to organize the Public Library at Greenwich.

**Mr. G. H. Burton**, Librarian of Oldbury has been appointed first Chief Librarian of King's Norton.

**Mr. Stephen Clarke**, who has been Librarian to the Blackrock Council for many years, died, greatly regretted, on November 1st.

**Mr. Cuthbert E. A. Clayton**, of Richmond, Surrey, lately Assistant Librarian to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, has been appointed the Librarian to the Manchester Medical Society.

**Mr. A. R. Corns**, the City Librarian of Lincoln, has been unanimously elected Hon. Sec. of the Lincoln Municipal Officers' Association.

**Mr. Melvil Dewey**, the universally-known and acknowledged leader of library interests the world over, has resigned his long connection with the State Library of New York and its flourishing Library School. He has been forced to do so by the pressure of the pedagogical powers at Albany, mainly, one would judge, because the library side of the work was attracting more public attention than the school side. It would have been better, one would have thought, for the scholastic party to have burnished up their own work a bit in order to bring it to the library level. But professional jealousy is generally better satisfied with the sacrifice of a more capable opponent than by undertaking the work of internal reformation. We can assure Mr. Dewey that he has the sympathy of every English librarian, and that his disappearance from active library work is regarded as an international calamity. Luckily it can hardly be long before he re-enters the field in a more independent capacity. The occurrence at Albany may be taken to

heart by those librarians in England who see in the union with the schoolmaster element in education a solution of all difficulties. Perhaps it would be, but many would feel uncomfortable under the heel of the average clerk to the Education Board.—*Verb. Sap.*

**Mr. C. W. Hedden**, of the Central Library, Cardiff, and **Mr. Alexander Strain**, hitherto in the service of the Belfast Library Committee, have been appointed librarians to two of Glasgow's District Libraries.

**Mr. J. Nelson** has been appointed Librarian to the Oldpath Road Branch Library under the Belfast Corporation.

**Mr. Walter S. C. Rae**, Librarian of Darwen, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the Fulham Public Libraries in succession to the late Mr. Franklin T. Barrett. He was trained in the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, and his appointment is a somewhat amusing commentary on the action of the Glasgow Corporation in rejecting Mr. Prescott, of Fulham as their Town Clerk, on the score of nationality. Apparently Fulham is much larger minded than Glasgow.

**The Library** of Puritan and general literature left by the late C. H. Spurgeon has been sold to the William Jewell College, Liberty, U.S.A., an institution founded about fifty years since by the Baptists of the State of Missouri. Thus another great collection goes to America.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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**M**R. JAMES D. STEWART contributes the principal article to the November *Public Libraries*. His theme is "Technical Education and Public Libraries in England," and he gives a very interesting sketch of the work that is being done by the library in relation to other educational agencies. "From the first, it was recognized by legislators that the Public Library should work with the school of science and art, and power was given to the library authorities to provide not only Public Libraries, but museums, schools for science, art galleries and schools for art, and, since 1877 in the case of Ireland, schools of music. In theory, this power was, and is, very desirable. Unfortunately, to support such institutions on the penny in the pound rate allowed by Parliament would be utterly beyond the resources of all but a few places. Consequently most authorities, preferring to establish one department on an efficient basis rather than to starve several, have used their powers for the maintenance of a library only. It is a significant fact that the places that have established other departments in addition to a library, have nearly all had to apply to Parliament for special rating powers or to adopt the Museums Act. This leads to one definite conclusion: It is admittedly desirable to have all departments



established on an efficient basis, and, as the present limited rate is utterly inadequate for this purpose, the limit should be removed." To which we say amen. The writer gives particulars of the work done in various localities, and displays a healthy optimism in his concluding remark: "More, much more, than has been done yet remains to be done, but they are well on the way in the right direction; and, if the progress of the last few years is maintained, the English Public Library will soon have attained at once its rightful place and its maximum of usefulness." Margaret C. Dyer contributes an historical paper on "The beginnings of Public Libraries supported by taxation," from which it appears that the first library in America supported out of the public funds, was one at Annapolis, founded in 1697 by Sir Francis Nicholson. There is also a suggestive article on "How to make the library useful to high school pupils" by R. H. Wright. Miss Julia E. Elliott has taken the recent symposium on the shortcomings and qualifications of library assistants, and from it has evolved a paper on the relation of the librarian to the assistant. The writer emphasises the fact—so frequently overlooked—that it is the librarian who makes his assistants what they are. "Every librarian should know from careful observation and study the strong and weak points of her assistants. She should seek earnestly and systematically to develop every good quality and overcome the poor ones." The writer points out many ways in which this can be done.

Most of the articles in the October *Library Journal* are of more interest to Americans than to us. Their subjects are "Library Conditions" in Oregon, Washington, and Northern and Central California, and "Sources of North-western History." There is, however, a very valuable and practical note on the value of a bindery in a small library. The cost of installing a bindery plant is about £25. "The experiment has demonstrated that a bindery lessens the running expenses of a library, lengthens the life of its books, and withdraws them a shorter time from circulation. . . . It will pay for itself in less than two years." The writer, Mr. H. F. Marx, advocates the ordinary staff running the bindery, but we think that it will be generally admitted that a better way is to employ a special assistant. From this number of the *Journal* it is evident that even the Americans are susceptible to the gentle titillation of flattery. An extract is given from an article dealing with children's work in America which appeared recently in the *Library Assistant*, and the extractor has carefully left out all condemnatory criticism; contenting herself with what might be called "a little bit of sugar for the bird"—in this case the American eagle.

The September *Literary Collector* contains a pleasant, gossipy article on dedications of books by Mr. Henry E. Legler, who always writes interestingly, and who is, we believe, a prominent factor in the work of the Wisconsin Library Commission. He notes the fact that none of the volumes dealing with book dedications point out that the most interesting—and frequently most graceful and genuine—dedications are those addressed to mother, wife, or sweetheart. He supports his case by giving many examples of such dedications taken from all

sorts of writers from R.L.S. down to "Mrs. Wiggs." An abridgment of Mr. George Smith's "Old English Newspapers," which appeared in the July *Library Association Record*, forms the second paper in the number.

Travelling libraries in many aspects are dealt with in the September *Wisconsin Library Bulletin*. The articles are "Traveling libraries in Wisconsin"; "How to secure traveling libraries"; "The traveling library and the country reader"; "A library wagon" (with illustration); "Rural free delivery"; "County systems of traveling libraries"; "Traveling libraries of foreign books" and "The traveling library and the school." They are, of course, all short, but contain a large amount of information. There are also many interesting notes.



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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**Der Leihbetrieb** der öffentlichen Bibliotheken und das geltende Recht. Von Dr. Johannes Franke, direktor der Kgl. Universitäts-Bibliothek zu Berlin. 62 pp. 8vo. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 6". Berlin: Franz Vahlen. 1905. Price m. 1.50.

This little paper-covered handbook to German lending library law, characterized by Teutonic thoroughness, is well worth careful study. It deals with municipal law as it affects the library, borrowers and burgesses in various aspects, the return of books, relation to the penal code, and makes many practical suggestions.

**Libraries of the City of Chicago**, with an historical sketch of the Chicago Library Club. The Chicago Library Club: 1904. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. 110.

This neat and tasteful little monograph, compiled by members of the Chicago Library Club, gives a list of the chief libraries in the city in alphabetical order, with notes on origin, stock, regulations, &c., and then proceeds to particular descriptions, nicely illustrated with exterior and interior views and portraits, of the Ryerson Library, Art Institute; Chicago Historical Society Library; the John Crerar Library; Newberry Library; Chicago Public Library; and the Chicago Library Club.

"**The Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature**," issued by the H. H. Wilson Company of Minneapolis, U.S., is an important library tool which does not appear to have attracted much attention in this country. It indexes in cumulative form about seventy of the best English and American periodicals, and is published at six dollars per annum, or, say, 26s. It is published monthly thus making available at once the current literature of any subject, instead of, as in the case of Poole's Index, postponing this record for more than one year. Furthermore being cumulative, each number records to date, the contents of the

magazines indexed. We understand that the H. H. Wilson Company are willing to include many more English magazines, if more British libraries will subscribe. As Mr. Stead's Index has unfortunately been discontinued, we trust the librarians of this country will give a hearty support to such a useful venture.

#### CATALOGUES.

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.** Annotated catalogue of books used in the Home libraries and Reading clubs conducted by the Children's Department. A subject arrangement with author and title-index. Pittsburgh: 1905. Price 25 cents.

A graded list of books for younger children, and for boys and girls separately, with annotations and indexes.

**Classified Catalogue of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.**

Part 2.—Philosophy and Religion; Part 3—Sociology and Philology; Part 4.—Natural Science and Useful Arts; Part 5.—Fine Arts. Pittsburgh: 1903-05.

Arranged according to the Decimal Scheme of Classification, with numerous annotations, a brief author index, but no topic index. This is a serious omission, and as no reference is made to Dewey's Index, the ordinary reader in quest of information on "Infusoria," for example, is absolutely without any guide. This should be rectified in some way, in order to make this otherwise able catalogue thoroughly useful. The topic index is more necessary than an author one.

**Glasgow Corporation Public Libraries** Index Catalogue of the Woodside District Library. Glasgow: 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xlv + 494. Price 4d. in paper, 6d. in cloth.

A dictionary catalogue, reproducing all the usual excellent features of the Glasgow catalogues, and adding an extension of the classified list of subject-headings; list of periodicals; books in open cases, &c.

**Patent Office, London.** Subject List of Works on Agriculture. Rural Economy, and Allied Sciences in the Library of the Patent Office. 424 pp. 8vo. 6½" × 4¼". 1905. Price 6d.

This, like the other Patent Office lists, forms an exceeding useful and practical bibliography of its subject. It is arranged on the usual alphabetical subject plan, with an index to the classification at the end.

**Stepney Public Libraries.** Library for the Blind, Cable Street, E. List of the Embossed Books provided for the free use of the Blind. 12 pp. 8vo. 8½" × 5½".

This little dictionary list of the books for the Blind is sent to each blind reader with an enclosure in Braille suggesting that they get sighted friends to read it over. Unlike many places, the Cable Street collection for the blind has been a success since its formation three years ago. Perhaps we might suggest that the energetic librarian at Cable Street should issue the third edition of this list in Braille.

**Stockport Public Library.** Supplementary Catalogue to the Lending Library, 1903-05. 88 pp. 8vo.  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ . 1905. Price 1d.

A dictionary catalogue. Entries are across the page, and are pretty much cut down. Important contents are set out. There is much to commend in this catalogue, but there seems to have been a want of care in checking references. For example, on the first page there is an entry: "Agriculture, *see* Electricity, England, Peasantry." Turning up "Electricity," we find one book on electricity in agriculture, and a reference "*see also* Agriculture"; the "England" reference is all right, but under "Peasantry" all we can find is another reference, "Peasantry, *see* Labour."

A contrast to this is the "Occasional List No. 1," just issued by the same library. It is an author list, and is exceedingly well annotated. The only suggestions for improvement we can make are a more rigorous editing of the notes in order to omit all non-informative matter, and a more generous acknowledgment of sources.

**Victoria Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery.**

Catalogue of Current Periodicals received at the Public Library of Victoria. 340 pp. 8vo.  $9\frac{3}{4}'' \times 6''$ . Melbourne, 1905.

A list on the dictionary plan. Forms a very useful subject guide to periodicals. It will certainly greatly increase the value of this department of the library.

**Westminster Public Libraries.** Catalogue of Books in the Lending Department of the Public Library, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 751 pp. 8vo.  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1\frac{3}{4}''$ . 1905. Price 1s.

Notwithstanding the excellence of this dictionary catalogue, we feel somewhat sorry for the people who have to use it, for it is indeed a ponderous volume. Such catalogues as this form, in our opinion, an excellent argument in favour of the more compact classed catalogue. This catalogue includes all the usual dictionary features, and differs from the general run only in its unusual accuracy, and the numerous entries for individual books.

#### REPORTS.

**Leigh,** eleventh report, 1904-05. Borrowers 1,972; stock 10,222 volumes; volumes issued 50,012 (exclusive of reference use). The year's progress has been satisfactory. "The open access given to all books in the new reading room" is "thoroughly appreciated and liberally used daily." A quarterly magazine has been instituted.

**Pittsburgh, U.S.,** ninth report, 1904-05. Borrowers 50,507; stock 200,263 volumes; volumes issued 645,093. Mr. E. H. Anderson, who has been librarian since the opening, resigned in December last, and the occasion has been taken to give a practical and historical account of the work of the library in a much fuller manner than usual. The result is a very interesting document, dealing with such matters as special loan privileges for readers, reference work, all sorts of work with children and schools, home libraries, lectures, etc.

## BULLETINS, ETC.

- Accrington.** *Public Library and Technical School Journal*, July-December. Contains a report on the Cambridge conference, an annotated list of additions, and notes "on matters educational."
- Bootle.** *Programmes of Free Lectures*. Exceedingly interesting lists of forthcoming lectures, about forty in all.
- Chicago.** *The Chicago Public Library: a Handbook*. An illustrated pamphlet (32 pp.) giving historical and other information about the library.
- Croydon.** *Reader's Index*, Nov.-Dec. Contains a pleasing bibliographical article on "Travelling: Past and Present," by Mr. W. A. Peplow. A new feature is a series of "Children's Reading Lists" in connection with the library talks to children. These are the first lists of this kind that we remember seeing, and they are well worth examination.
- Finsbury.** *Quarterly Guide*, October. The present issue of this well-known guide seems to want something of its usual accuracy. For example, on one page we find "Baring-Gould (Sabine)," and on another "Gould (S. Baring-)." Also such entries as "Baederker," "Burprea," and "Dante (Alighieri) Purgatoris" strike us as being familiarly unfamiliar. The principal item is a reading list—preceded by illustrations of Nelson and the "Victory"—on "Nelson and the Battle of Trafalgar."
- Leigh.** *Notes on Recent Additions*, October. A curiously uneven annotated list. One finds such illuminating notes as "A work too well known to need describing" (to Froude's "English in Ireland") and "A second copy of this useful work," mixed up with really useful and informative ones. A more rigid editorial supervision of the notes, and this bulletin—of which this is the second number—will be a very excellent one.
- Nottingham.** *Library Bulletin*, November. This useful little magazine still maintains its usual standard. We should wish to see descriptive notes on books included in the list of additions rather than collected under another heading such as "general notes."
- Pittsburgh.** *Monthly Bulletin*, October. One of the best library magazines that comes from the States. This number is wholly occupied by a well annotated list of additions.
- Providence.** *Quarterly Bulletin*, October. Contains a long unannotated list of additions.
- St. Louis.** *Monthly Bulletin*, October. In addition to the list of additions, it contains lists of Hebrew, Polish, and Russian books, and recent books of value to teachers.

## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Brown** (John). *Horæ subsecivæ*. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1905]. 8°, 8", pp. viii. + 230. Price 1s. net. [NO INDEX.]

Collection of essays.—Rab and his friends; Our dogs; Queen Mary's child-garden; Mystifications; With brains, Sir; Arthur H. Hallam; Vaughan's poems; Notes on Art. Originally published in 1858—1882. A selection from the three series of *Horæ*.

A neatly printed and convenient selection of Brown's celebrated essays and sketches, forming a new volume of the "New Universal Library."

**Christmas Books.** The Photogravure and Colour Series. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8¼". Price 3s. 6d. net each.

**ANSON** (W. S. W.), *ed.* The Christmas Book of Carols and Songs. Ed. by W. S. W. Anson. With 12 coloured plates by Alan Wright and Vernon Stokes [1905].

**APULEIUS.** *Cupid and Psyche*. Translated (A.D. 1566) by William Adlington. With 12 photogravures after drawings by Gilbert James, 1906 [1905].

**ARNOLD** (Matthew). *Poems*. With 12 photogravures after Gilbert James, 1905.

**BLAIR** (Robert). *The Grave: a poem*. 11 photogravures after designs by Wm. Blake [1905].

**BOOKS OF RUTH AND ESTHER.** With 12 photogravures from drawings by Gilbert James [1905].

**HERRICK** (Robert). *Flower poems*. With a note on Herrick by Algernon C. Swinburne. Illustrated with 12 coloured plates by Florence Castle [1905].

**MILTON** (John). *Comus, a masque*. With illustrations by Jessie M. King, 1906 [1905].

**THOMAS À KEMPIS**. *The Imitation of Christ, in four books*. Translated from the Latin by the Rev. William Benham. With 12 photogravures after celebrated paintings, 1905.

This dainty and nicely produced series of books is one which is specially adapted for Christmas presents, and we heartily commend them to the notice of book-buyers generally.

**Farnell** (L. R.). *The Evolution of religion, an anthropological study*. London: Williams & Norgate, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 234. Price 5s.

An introduction to the comparative study of religions, with special reference to the ritual of purification, and the evolution of prayer from higher to lower forms.

A course of Hibbert Lectures, issued as a volume of the Crown Theological Library. Treats of the subject of comparative religion from a somewhat novel and suggestive standpoint.

**Hadden** (J. Cuthbert). *The Nelson navy book*. London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1906 [1905]. 8°, 8", pp. 304, *illust., some coloured*. Price 6s. [No INDEX.]

A popular account of the British navy, from Danish times to the present day, told in a series of sketches and episodes chronologically arranged.

A nicely illustrated and interesting work, which comes appropriately enough in the centenary year of Nelson's death. Like most other books on British naval history, this one seems to ignore the important part played by John Clerk, of Eldin, whose mathematical theory of naval tactics, when applied by Rodney, Duncan, Nelson and others, led to such great victories, and tended so greatly to establish British sea power.

**Hulme** (E. Wyndham), J. Gordon Parker, A. Seymour-Jones, Cyril Davenport and F. J. Williamson. *Leather for libraries*. London: Library Supply Co., 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. 58. Price 1s. 6d. net.

A brief account of Sumach tanning in England; Decay in bookbinding leathers; Modern bookbinding leathers; Repairing and binding of books for Public Libraries; Specification for the fittings of a small bindery.

This eminently practical handbook, which ought to have been entitled "Leather for Bookbinding in Libraries," is largely the outcome of the Society of Arts report against acid-tanned leathers, and owes its existence to the energy of Messrs. Hulme and Davenport. It is an excellent text-book on the whole subject of leather bookbinding, and any librarian who follows its precepts will be sure to obtain enduring and satisfactory results. For years past, bookbinding leathers have been among the most unsatisfactory of industrial products, largely because for trade purposes it was found necessary to employ destructive acids in their preparation. "Leather for Libraries" teaches

librarians how to avoid such perishable wares, and lays down a substantial code of rules, which ought in the future to form the basis of every bookbinding specification. There are specimens of sound leathers fastened inside the boards of the book, so that anyone can see the grain and external finish of properly treated leathers of different kinds. The book should be in the hands of every library authority, library bookbinder, and, indeed, everyone interested in any way in the durability of books.

**Oman** (John C.). *The Mystics, Ascetics and Saints of India. A study of Sadhuism, with an account of the Yogis, Sanyasis, Bairagis, and other strange Hindu sectarians.* London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905. 8°, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ " , pp. xvi. + 292, *illustr.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

Historical and descriptive account of the wandering and temple priests, devotees, fakirs and sectarians of India, with personal observations, illustrated with drawings and photographs.

A valuable contribution to the literature of comparative religion and the religious life and customs of modern India. The author's own experiences are recorded, in addition to much research of a far-reaching and original character.

**Pepys** (Samuel, 1633—1703). *Diary.* (1659—1669.) With an introduction and notes by G. Gregory Smith. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " , pp. xxxii + 800. Price 3s. 6d. net.

An excellent "Globe Edition" of Pepys' immortal Diary, with an able introductory memoir and appreciation, and illuminating notes by a competent editor. This forms a very handy and sufficiently complete text for most purposes, and is perhaps the most useful one-volume edition in existence. For Public Library purposes it is admirable.

**Peterson** (Franklin). *The Student's handbook of musical knowledge.* London: Augener, Ltd., n.d. [c. 1905]. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " , pp. iv. + 84. Price 1s. 6d.

A brief survey of musical theory, including the elements of music, harmony, etc., with a glossary.

A useful elementary handbook, which will be found suitable for young musical students.

**Récy** (Georges de). *The Decoration of leather.* From the French, by Maude Nathan. London: A. Constable & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ " , pp. 104, *illustr.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

A practical text-book on the art of working in leather, applied to the covering and decoration of caskets, shields, flasks, furniture, books, etc.

This is a workman's manual, as well as an artistic handbook to a special craft, and is therefore well adapted for the purpose of Public Libraries and technical schools. The illustrations of examples of decorated leather-work are very fine, and the text pictures illustrating tools and processes are exceedingly useful.



**Routledge's** Miniature Reference Library.

**HYAMSON** (Albert M.). *The Newspaper reader's companion: a dictionary of political and social terms.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1905]. 8°, 4", pp. iv. + 96. Price 1s. net.

**SWAN** (H.). *Who wrote that? (Prose authors.) A dictionary of prose quotations.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1905]. 8°, 4", pp. ii. + 348. Price 1s. net.

Mr. Hyamson's book is fairly abreast of the times by including a description of the word Zemstvo. But why omit Duma? "Who wrote that?" is arranged by subjects alphabetically.

**Seymour** (Charles). *How to speak effectively, on the platform, at the meeting, in the pulpit.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1905]. 8°, 7½", pp. xx. + 298. Price 2s. 6d.

Rules for securing correct modulation, inflexion, emphasis, articulation, &c., with selections from the poetry and verse of great authors.

A useful and sensible addition to the army of elocutionary manuals which exist to vex the soul of the librarian. This book is in suitable form for Public Library purposes, and is therefore to be recommend.

**Sichel** (Walter). *Emma, Lady Hamilton. from new and original sources and documents. Together with an appendix of notes and new letters.* London: A. Constable & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8¾", pp. xxiv + 552, *ports., illust.* Price 21s. net.

Biography of Emma Lyon (or Hart), afterwards Lady Hamilton (1765-1815), and her relations with Viscount Nelson (1793-1805).

A new and sympathetic life of Lady Hamilton, based on original research, and clearing up many doubtful points and disposing of some historical scandals. The book will take rank as *the* life of a character in modern history who has been depicted heretofore as a rather notoriously light woman, rather than, as Mr. Sichel clearly proves, a stateswoman, philanthropist, and, with all her faults, a thoroughly true woman. The work should be in every Public Library as an antidote to much erroneous history and false teaching.

**Smith** (Alexander). *Dreamthorp, a book of essays written in the country.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1905]. 8°, 6", pp. vi. + 352. Price 1s. net. [NO INDEX.]

Essays on—The Writing of Essays; Death; William Dunbar; A Lark's flight; Christmas; Men of letters; Importance of a man to himself; A shelf in my bookcase; Chaucer; Books and Gardens; Vagabonds.

Another volume of the New Universal Library, and a welcome addition to this nice little series of reprints.

**Slater** (J. Herbert). How to collect books. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. xii. + 206., *illustr.* Price 6s. net.

Hints on the collection and preservation of old books and manuscripts, modern book rarities, &c., with some bibliographical details concerning paper, sizes, title-pages, illustrations, &c.

A popular handbook for collectors of rare and special books, by one whose experience of auction sales and prices makes him an authority on the bibliomaniacal side of the subject. The illustrations in facsimile are very useful, and the book may be commended as a convenient manual for the amateur.

**Snell** (F. J.). The Age of transition 1400-1580. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 2 Vols. 8°, 6¾", *chronological tables*. Price 7s. net.

An addition to the Handbooks of English literature, edited by Prof. J. W. Hales. Vol. I.—The Poets: Occleve, Lydgate, Wyntoun, Blind Harry, James I. of Scotland, Dunbar, Gawin Douglas, Sir David Lindsay, Barclay, Wyatt, and Ballads and Songs. Vol. II.—Dramatists and Prose writers: Morality plays and interludes, the Bible, Caxton, Malory, More, Ascham, Lyly, Stow, &c.

A capital handbook for the student of English literature, covering the period between Chaucer and Shakespeare, and written with thoroughness and style in an attractive manner.

**Swift** (Jonathan, 1667-1745). Gulliver's travels, [1726]. Ed. by G. Ravenscroft Dennis. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. xxxii + 308, *port, maps, bibliographical note*. Price 2s. net.

A reprint in the York Library, of Mr. Dennis' edition of Gulliver, which first appeared in 1899. It is distinguished by a full and correct text, and is more likely to prove of service to the student of literature or ordinary reader than the uncritical editions which are mostly in vogue.

**Technological** and scientific dictionary, edited by G. F. Goodchild and C. F. Tweney. London: G. Newnes, Ltd., 1905. Part x. Pyrimidines to Santonine. Price 1s. net.

Another instalment of this useful compilation, which is now nearing completion.

**Trench** (Richard C.). *Archbishop*. Proverbs and their lessons. With additional notes and a bibliography of proverbs, by A. Smythe Palmer. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. x. + 180. Price 2s. 6d.

Definition of a proverb; Generation of a proverb; National proverbs compared; Poetry, wit, wisdom, morality and theology of proverbs.

A reprint in the "English Library" of a well-known work, originally issued in 1853. A neat and well printed edition.

**Wallace** (Mrs. Willoughby). *Woman's Kingdom*: containing suggestions as to furnishing, decorating and economically managing the home for people of limited means. London: A. Constable & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8<sup>c</sup>, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " , pp. viii + 244, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d.

On houses, furnishing, servants, expenses, laundry, employments, entertainments, menus, recipes, &c.

An entertaining and suggestive little book on domestic economy, which avoids the extremes, so often found in such works, of describing a soup for a middle-class clerk's family, which requires half-a-bottle of port wine as a flavouring, or instructing a washerwoman how to concoct a dinner for a family of ten out of a penny marrow-bone!

**Williams** (Archibald). *The Romance of mining*, containing interesting descriptions of the methods for mining for minerals in all parts of the world. London: C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., 1905. 8<sup>c</sup>, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " , pp. 402, *illustr.*

An account of the great mines of the world, with notices of the process of procuring silver, gold, coal, tin, iron, copper, precious stones, marble, salt, and sulphur.

A splendid book for the juvenile section, well-illustrated, well written and full of valuable and out-of-the-way information. A worthy companion to the author's other works in the romance of industry and invention.



## LIBRARIANSHIP IN BOHEMIA.

o o o

WE have much pleasure in calling the attention of British librarians to the excellent work of Mr. Lad. J. Zivny in advocating the extension of library work in Bohemia. He is doing for Bohemia what Mr. Steenberg has done for Denmark, and Mr. Nyhuus for Norway, by directing attention to the library facilities of this country and America. His pamphlet entitled *Verejné knihovny ve Velké Britanii*, 1905, contains an account of library work in Great Britain, with many quotations from the works of Thomas Greenwood and Jas. D. Brown. He has also established a new educational and library journal, of which the first number lies before us. It is entitled *Ceská Osveta*, and contains an introductory poem by J. S. Machar, the famous Bohemian poet; Notes on popular educational work, especially through the agency of libraries; An article by K. Pospisil on the labours of the new Bohemian School Association (or Comenius Union); a paper on the Title Catalogue, by F. Blazka; notices of new books with Dewey numbers added; and other interesting articles and features. We wish Mr. Zivny every success in his interesting and useful work.

## SCHOOL LIBRARIES.\*

By JAMES D. STEWART.

o o o

THE importance of the book as an educational agency has so long been recognized, that it will be unnecessary for me to dwell upon that side of the question. Yet it is impossible to ignore it altogether, for it is in the educational power of the book that we find the main reason for the existence of the school library. The elementary schools carry education up to a certain point, and the technical schools and universities take it up and carry it still further, but it is the library—or at any rate the book—which co-ordinates the whole; many people, indeed, have no education beyond the elementary school, except what they obtain from books. From this, the part played by the school library becomes obvious. Not only is it a powerful educator in itself, but it prepares the individual for the use of the Public Library and of books in general in the period following school life. Also, I need hardly point out that, although the use of the text-book is dispensed with as far as possible, the whole modern system of teaching is founded on the use of books.

Now, although books play such an important part in our schools, their use has been narrowed down to certain stereotyped lines. Text-books, of course, are there in plenty, but there is little else. The consequence of this is that along these stereotyped lines the ideas of both scholars and teachers are apt to run, and the broader views resulting from more catholic reading are absent. Of recent years many authorities have realized that much improvement is possible in this direction, and the result has been the establishment of libraries in elementary schools, affording greater facilities for general reading on the part of the scholars.

As Dr. Macnamara informed you last month, about 9,000 out of 20,000 schools are at the present time provided with libraries. The management of these collections varies greatly in different localities. The larger number are entirely under the control of the individual education committees, some are run by library committees, and some are managed by a joint education and library committee. There can be little doubt that the most satisfactory of these ways is the last. When the system of school libraries is organized and administered entirely by the education committee many disadvantages result. There is very rarely, if ever, a really representative selection of books; no proper methods of working are laid down; and there is no trained supervision. The collections of books at individual schools are never changed, and seldom added to; I have known several cases where teachers with some enthusiasm for their libraries, have been forced to

\*Read before the Library Assistants' Association, 15th November, 1905.

supply books themselves in order to keep the collection up to date. In short, the libraries are allowed to stagnate. Then, it is a well-known fact that where the education authority has sole control, the books instead of being distributed freely are turned into a sort of good conduct badge. Little Willy, who is an incorrigible scamp, and who really needs all the improvement he can get, is deprived of their use, while smug Tommy gets all he wants. This sugar-candy doling out of books is one of the worst features of many existing school libraries.

Where the library authority has sole management, matters are in a much better condition. Yet even this arrangement is not without its disadvantages, not the least of which is that it throws an unfair burden upon the library committee.

The method of joint control by the education and library authorities solves all the difficulties. Under this arrangement, the education committee bears the whole of the expenses, while the library does all the work ; and the system is administered by a committee composed of representatives from each body.

The school libraries by this means receive systematic, trained supervision, while the burden is distributed instead of being entirely upon the library.

Having decided upon the constitution of the governing body, the next matter to consider is the organization of a system of school libraries. Several important questions must be answered before anything definite can be done. Are the libraries to be for the use of every child in the schools, or only for those in the upper standards? Are the libraries to be installed only in the elementary schools managed by the education committee, or are they to be extended to all schools, public and private, elementary and secondary? The answers to these and other questions will resolve themselves into a matter of finance. If there be money enough, I see no reason why all schools and all scholars should not be provided for. Let us assume, however, that only the public elementary schools are to be included in the scheme.

A special assistant should be appointed, to devote all his time to school library work. This is a much better way than having the work done by the general library staff, and results in better—because more specialized—work being done. Let me say here, at the risk of making several mortal enemies, that the lady school-library assistant should be avoided. Very much more and better work will be done by a male assistant. Please do not imagine from this, that I think ladies are not as good as men in some branches of library work—I believe they are ; but their value in school library work has been overrated. In America, the home of the school library, many of the school librarians are ladies for the same reason that many of the librarians are ladies : men will not enter the profession to become either. However, I shall not go beyond my solemn warning, especially as any day you may find glowing examples of the sort of sweet-little-darling hysteria—or shall I call it goo-goo-itis—that overcomes the American lady school librarian.

The next point is the selection of books, and this again will, for the first year or two at any rate, be governed by the amount of money

available. The selection should be as representative as possible, and should contain books suited to the intelligences of scholars of various ages. Some of the large fully-annotated catalogues of children's books issued by American libraries—notably Pittsburg—will be found helpful, although somewhat spread-eagled and given to a noble disregard of books published in “the effete old country.” All sorts of books, from picture alphabets to fairly advanced historical and scientific books must be included; and I do not think it will be necessary to waste time in discussing the silly remarks of the Countess of Shrewsbury on the subject of fairy books. Book selection is a wide question, and an examination of the catalogue of a good system of school or juvenile libraries will tell you more than I can in this brief paper.

When a sufficient number of volumes have been obtained to give the school libraries a good start, they have to be prepared for circulation. First, a catalogue must be compiled. My ideas on the subject of catalogues of children's books have already been set out in a paper written in collaboration with Mr. Sayers, but as that paper appeared in *The Library Association Record*, perhaps I may be allowed to outline the general principles. It is manifestly absurd to imagine that a catalogue compiled and annotated for the use of adults will be equally useful for children. The catalogue must be prepared with a view to meeting the requirements of the people who have to use it; and this means that the children's catalogue must be couched in the simplest language. The use of the word “pictures” instead of “illustrations,” “ill.” or “illus.,” and many like simplifications, will readily come to mind; for other variations I must refer you to the *August Record*. While on this part of the subject, I must enter a plea for doing away with abbreviations in ordinary catalogues; if it resulted in nothing else, it at least would abolish such entries as the following, culled from a London catalogue—“Jack at Sea, *ill.*”

The books should be classified upon some easily understood plan, such as the simplified Dewey scheme recommended in the *Record*. To avoid a multiplicity of numbers and marks, the class-number of the book should also be used for charging purposes, and in order to do this some additional symbol must be added to the actual class-number to distinguish book from book within a class. Thus, if there are ten books in class 95, History of Asia, a good way to individualise them would be to take the first letters of the authors' names, followed by simple numerals. In this way, three books, by Jones, Robinson and Smith, would be numbered 95J1, 95R1 and 95S1, respectively; and when other authors on the same subject with names beginning with the same letters came along they would be numbered, let us say, 95J2, J3, J4, and so on. In the case of fiction there would, of course, be no class-number, and to mark them it would be necessary to take the first two letters of the author's name before numbering. Ballantyne would thus be numbered BA3 (or some other number), and Black, BL3. This is by no means so complicated as it sounds, and has been found to work perfectly well in practice. Also it is as clear as glass compared with some of the marking methods in use. If you take one of your

local motor numbers, and multiply it by something like 4.7, then drop in a few Ps and Xs and add a promiscuous dot or two, the result will give you some faint idea of various choice brands of book numbers in use at the present time.

When the book numbers have been applied to the collection, the next thing to arrange is the method of charging. Around this point, much controversy has raged. The relative merits of ledger and card-charging have been weighed again and again, with more or less bias on the part of the weighers. It is contended, and there is much to support the contention, that as in all probability the teachers who will have to do the charging have been accustomed to work with a ledger, it would be preferable to continue that system. However, I think most will agree that the balance of advantage is on the side of card-charging. If the method is explained to the teachers at the commencement, they will not be slow to realize its simplicity and adaptability as compared with the ledger.

If card-charging be adopted, a separate ticket must be written for each book, giving the author's surname, a brief title, and, at the top, the book-number. Each scholar has a ticket giving his name and address, and perhaps a registration number. Either the book-card or the scholar's ticket should be made in the form of a pocket into which the other card or ticket can slip. Then when a scholar takes out a book, all that need be done is to couple his ticket and the book-card, and the charge is completed. If thought desirable, although it really is not necessary, the book-card or the scholar's ticket may be ruled to receive particulars of each issue. The use of the card-charging system necessitates a tray to hold the cards being sent to each school.

With regard to the other processes involved in getting the books ready for circulation, I need say nothing, as they are mostly mechanical, and differ in no way from ordinary library processes. One point, however, is worth noting: when the books are being catalogued, they should also be marked or graded according to the age of the children to whom they are addressed. This mark will be found a great help when apportioning the books to schools. The most suitable grades are: (*A*) Picture and other elementary books, suited to children up to six years of age; (*B*) Books suitable for children from six to nine years; (*C*) From nine to twelve years; (*D*) Over twelve years.

When the books have been catalogued, classified, and otherwise prepared for circulation, there comes the problem of dividing them up among the schools. In doing this, several general considerations must be noted. With a comparatively small collection of books such as a school library, it is advisable that the collections at the various schools should be interchanged once a year. In order to do this it is necessary to arrange the schools into groups according to size, so that when an interchange is made, each school will receive a collection similar in extent to the one it has lost; for clearly it would be unfair to take away a large library and replace it by a small one.

Suppose that there are thirty schools to be provided with libraries. The first thing to do is to get a statement of the number of scholars attending each, and the number in each standard. Then the schools should be classed into five or six groups according to the number of scholars to be catered for. When this is done it will be found that there are, say, five groups of school libraries, each group containing six libraries of practically equal size. The rest is now fairly plain sailing. If a record is kept of the entire collection divided up into these groups of libraries, it is a simple matter to arrange exchanges and additions within each group.

The exchanges, as well as any stock-taking or overhauling of the libraries, should be done during the month of August when the schools have closed for the holidays. It is not necessary for the libraries all to be returned to the Public Library for this; any necessary checking could be done at the schools, and only books requiring repairs brought away.

The question of transport is best solved by means of a series of light boxes or hampers, each holding a library, and by arrangement with a local carrier.

There are many other points, such as special tickets for teachers and details of organization and management, upon which I would touch were I not afraid of trespassing too far upon your attention.

Let me say in conclusion, that I believe the time is coming in the near future, when each district will have its system of school libraries, and every assistant with an eye to the future should give the matter his attention.



## THE PROGRESS OF OPEN ACCESS.

o o o

I HAVE been favoured with a copy of a pamphlet entitled *Two Reports on the use and advantages of the safe-guarded open access system in public lending libraries. Prepared for the Committee of the Norwich Free Library, May, 1905, and submitted to the Norwich Town Council, October, 1905, by Councillor Herbert A. Day*, which seems to invite a few remarks on this interesting question. The pamphlet is mainly a recapitulation of the experiences of the chief open access libraries of the country in regard to such questions as misplacements, extra wear and tear; losses; extra cost; admission of children, etc. In every case the experience proves that, as regards losses, misplacements, extra wear and tear and all the other



alleged drawbacks, which have been persistently drummed into the public ear for over eleven years, they are either deliberate misrepresentations or gross exaggerations. The system of open shelves in both reference and lending libraries is now so firmly established both in this country and the United States, that I do not propose to state a single argument in its favour. This has all been done before, and perhaps the strongest argument is the slow but sure extension of the system in all parts of the United Kingdom. There are two causes now operating which point to the speedy extinction of the mechanical indicator system in English libraries, and these are, the rapid advance of exact classification, and a great increase of stock, which render the indicator a cumbersome, unscientific and utterly hopeless device. Already, in dozens of libraries, new and old, restrictive measures have been adopted to confine the indicator to fiction, as a means of defence against serious encroachments on space, funds and public convenience, and there will soon be no All Indicator libraries in existence. Again, the value of close classification, which is either hidden or lost by an indicator system, is becoming so obvious even to old fashioned librarians, that in a few years, indicators and other barriers will be swept aside, in order to make provision for readers having direct access to their own books. The proof of all this lies in such facts as are assembled in the Norwich pamphlet. The only reasonable grounds for municipal library committees refusing to consider the safe-guarded open access system are these:—(1) Unsuitable premises; (2) the cost and difficulty of discarding expensive apparatus once a library is committed to it; (3) incompetent officers; and (4) the labour involved in reclassifying a large library hitherto arranged in numerical or some such unsystematic order. The first and second difficulties are in many cases insurmountable, and they afford valid reasons against an immediate installation of open access, notwithstanding possible future economies. The third difficulty is a committee one, and is frequently cropping up, only to be smothered or postponed for sentimental or other reasons. Undoubtedly it is a very delicate matter to displace old servants, and though it has been done with discretion and tact in some places, it is not always easy to place a thoroughly-educated and scientifically trained man in the shoes of a man of long service who may simply be a librarian by accident. The fourth difficulty is rapidly clearing its own way, and though one can imagine the horror and distaste with which an old and fossilized librarian must regard reorganization and re-classification, there can be no doubt that system and science must ultimately prevail. For many years the statement has gone forth, in every kind of distorted and absurdly exaggerated form, chiefly in trade circulars, letters to the press and to library committeemen, etc., that at least 60% of the librarians of the country are opposed to the open access system. The answer to this grotesque misrepresentation is best given in the form of a list of some of the towns which have adopted the open access system in their lending libraries. Here is such a list, not by any means complete, and excluding all the towns in which the change from barrier systems has been discussed or is at present under consideration—

Accrington	Croydon	Kettering	Shipley
Ashton-under-Lyne	Darwen	King's Lynn	Southport
Blackpool	Exeter	Kingston-on-Thames	Southwark
Bournemouth	Finsbury	Lambeth	Teddington
Brighouse	Fulham	Maidenhead	Torquay
Brighton	Gloucester	Malvern	Widnes
Bromley(Kent)	Hornsey	Montrose	Worcester
Cardiff	Hove	Northampton	
Chelmsford	Huddersfield	Rothwell	

This is a very remarkable list, including as it does, some of the most enlightened communities in the country, and not a few librarians whose reputation and professional standing are practically world-wide. Furthermore, it is from among these libraries that every advanced movement of the last ten years has sprung, including the great efforts to get into touch with the educational work of the nation, and to raise Public Libraries in public estimation by more effective methods. Now, in addition to this array of experience in open access methods on the lending library side, there is the reference library side in many other great libraries, including important cities and towns like Birmingham, Aberdeen, Cambridge, Battersea, Hampstead, Manchester, Oldham, Reading, Sunderland, and many smaller places. Here is, therefore, a weight of testimony to the general efficiency of allowing direct access of readers to classified shelves, and a series of practical examples of successful work, against which it is useless to argue.

The advance of classification is so marked, and has been so general during the past three or four years, that one has a certain amount of confidence in saying that within the next few years the old-fashioned, unsystematic and haphazard unclassified library will be practically extinct, and with its extinction and the rise of the classified library will go all kinds of barriers, including indicators. It is only necessary to compare American with British library systems, to realize what an awful incubus the indicator system has been in this country. It has induced stagnation in every department of library work, including cataloguing, classification, book-selection, and book-distribution, and has caused librarians to think along mechanical lines which have proved disastrous to efficiency and progress. As among those who have the best interests of the municipal library service at heart, I should hail with pleasure the day when all forms of indicators are consigned to South Kensington, as specimens of ingenious but futile inventions.

I. G. B.



## LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

*By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, Croydon Public  
Libraries.*

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(Continued from page 152.)

### VIII.

#### ARTICLES AND OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY MATTER.

71. Our next consideration, the bibliographical article, is perhaps the most pleasant of all, especially to the librarian with literary tastes. Pleasant though it be, however, its position here late in the series indicates its relative importance in the library magazine. In a majority of cases no room will be available for articles; the matter we have hitherto considered will occupy all the space at the editor's disposal. However, the happy minority must receive attention.

72. At the risk of appearing wearisome we will reiterate a few remarks previously made on the unsuitable matter which is constantly served up in library publications. A library magazine should rigorously exclude all matters that do not lead directly or indirectly to the library shelves. It is possible to write an elegant and entertaining disquisition on a book or an author without doing this. We have quoted a criticism on a modern novel which occupied three-fourths of a page in the library magazine from which it was taken, but did not convey any useful information to the reader, nor even mentioned whether the library possessed a copy of the work criticised. Such articles should not appear. Again, that a library magazine of twelve pages should devote four to paste-and-scissors chapters on local history, notes on current events, and results of antiquarian research, seems to show a woeful lack of the sense of proportion.

73. What, then, it may be asked, should the approved library magazine article be. Briefly, it is an article on some topic, current or seasonable by preference, written around the books in the library dealing with the subject. It often happens that some prominent local body, such as the University Extension Committee, is running lectures, that afford opportunity for articles as well as reading lists. A case in point is a course on Napoleon and his era. A reading list embodying in systematic arrangement all the authorities on Napoleon must be prepared; but the article writer finds opportunity for a pleasant disquisition on Napoleon in Fiction, a subject which gives him room to mention a score or more of the best novels dealing with this period. But subjects for such articles are innumerable, and not much effort is required to secure an interesting freshness of style in each; and if, as is generally the case, the magazine only admits of one article a quarter, very little difficulty should be experienced in securing it of the requisite quality.

74. Although, as we have said, the article must lead directly or indirectly to the books, there is no need for it to be stilted, formal and official. We use the word "lead" advisedly; that is to say, it should not be directed point blank at the books, and titles fired off in every line merely because they touch the subject, but it should be quite an informing literary performance in itself, in which the books seem to appear incidentally but necessarily. The example we choose to illustrate our meaning is "English Essays." This might be approached in several ways: historically, scanning the whole range of English literature, and selecting the most typical examples of this form of literary expression; biographically, touching on the idiosyncrasies of the essayists as reflected in their work; or periodically, dealing exclusively with an essay period such as the Augustan age, and setting forth as many examples as are necessary to exhibit its characteristics. The writer must be careful in his selection of the works about which he intends to write, and should rigidly limit their number; few things are more uninviting than an article which is no more than a mass of titles strung together by a few connecting words. Having chosen the books and the method of treatment, the article is commenced with a very brief discussion of what the essay is, and its place relative to other literary forms. Then, if, as in the following example, the historical method be adopted, the writer proceeds to review the field of essays, and shows the salient feature of each writer. Thus an article is produced which, apart from the actual library shelves, would be interesting, but is made of practical value as a library tool by printing the names of every author mentioned in a more pronounced type, and adding in brackets after the title the library symbols and call numbers. Every article should be signed, and where it is written by a member of the library staff the fact should be mentioned. Criticism, for the reasons advanced in our discussion of Annotation, should be very rarely indulged in. The following is the first half of a bibliographical article on "English Essayists."

#### ENGLISH ESSAYISTS.

Bearing the same relation to prose that the lyric does to poetry, the essay stands apart from all other prose forms. Like the lyric, it is brief; and, like the lyric, it demands a certain literary finish and perfection. Not only must it be concise and polished, but it must be distinguished for clarity of thought and expression. As a literary form the essay is comparatively of late development, for a certain accumulation of literature and thought is necessary for its existence. The modern English essay may be said to have commenced at the end of the seventeenth century with the work of **Dryden** (**GNR** 824). Previous to that period, English prose style was characterised by ponderous and involved sentences, and even in Dryden and his immediate successors examples of the old tortuousness occasionally appear; but in the Queen Anne school these are eliminated. Following Dryden come the "Spectator" essayists, **Addison** and **Steele** (**CRSW** 824). Influenced to a considerable extent by Dryden, "they were unrivalled by vigour, not easily to be beaten in sober prose, abundantly capable of wit, but as a rule they lacked magnificence, and prose was with them emphatically a *sermo pedestris*." Then come the brilliant ironic essays of **Swift** (**CW** 827). Swift does not owe so much to his English predecessors as do the other essayists of his period; he was

steeped in the Latin classics. This influence is most in evidence in the "Tale of a Tub" and the "Battle of the Books" (R 827). In the former, "every characteristic of Swift's style is revealed—the mordant wit, the vehement graceful ease, the stringent simplicity." According to his contemporary, Addison, he was "the most agreeable companion, the truest friend, and the greatest genius of the age." The philosophical and historical style of **Hume** (CNS 824) was the next development. A perfect straightforwardness and lucidity is his chief merit as a writer. His work has none of the brilliance of that of Addison and Swift, but is distinguished by a faultless monotony. The essays of **Oliver Goldsmith** (CRS 828) may be said to occupy a position between the best work of Addison and Steele on the one hand, and of Lamb on the other. Macaulay, in his "Critical and Historical Essays," says: "There have been many greater writers; but perhaps no writer was ever more uniformly agreeable. His style was always pure and easy, and, on proper occasions, pointed and energetic. His narratives were always amusing, his descriptions always picturesque. his humour rich and joyous, yet not without an occasional tinge of amiable sadness." The middle of the eighteenth century is marked by a reaction against the plain, forcible style which began with Dryden and continued to Swift. The homely simplicity of these writers was put aside, and the opposite style—ponderous and grandiloquent—was reached in the Latinism of **Samuel Johnson** (CNR 824). In the words of one of his critics, he made his little fishes talk like whales. A characteristic example of this style is to be found in his "Rambler" essays; those in the "Idler," on the other hand, being much lighter and less pompous. At this period the tendency of thought was towards common sense, and Johnson possessing this attribute in an eminent degree, became at once the most prominent literary influence. The Latinism of the Johnsonian epoch, however, did not take permanent hold, and in the works of **Hazlitt** a return was made to a purer English style. Representative examples of his work are "Winterslow" (CSW 824), the "Table Talk" (CSW 824), and "The Spirit of the Age" (CNW 824), which has been called "the harvest-home of Hazlitt's mind." His work is distinguished for its psychological and introspective rather than its social qualities. "He was an essayist, a critic, a commentator upon other men's works and ways, rather than an original performer." In contrast to the speculative style of Hazlitt is the quaintly humorous manner of **Charles Lamb** (CNRS 824). His "Essays of Elia" rank among the classics of the language, and are unlike anything else. "He leads our thoughts to the actual, available springs of enjoyment. He reconciles us to ourselves; causing home pleasures, and the charms of the wayside, and the mere comforts of existence, to emerge from the shadow into which our indifference has cast them, into the light of fond recognition. . . . There are few better teachers of gratitude than Lamb."

75. It is advisable to keep before the public brief records of the activities of the library. Every number should contain statistics of book issue and reference consultations. The precise method in which these are to be set out must be according to local preference; but we may suggest that statistics should be comparative, that is, the issues in each class for the period covered should be accompanied in parallel columns by the issues of the same period of the previous year. This enables the statistic-loving committeeman and reader to guess at the progress of the library. Donations, however little they may deserve it, should receive as full acknowledgement as possible in the magazine. If possible, the title of every book given and the name of the giver set out. Although this may cost in printer's ink more than the donations are worth, there is practical wisdom in incurring the expense. In large libraries constant changes occur in the periodicals list; these

should be advertised, and any new method introduced into the working of the library—in these evolutionary days these should be legion—should be carefully and simply described. All these small but important matters might be given a section in the magazine headed Brevities, Notanda, or Notes, which can be subdivided into Announcements, Issues, Donations, Changes in Periodical List, Improvements.

76. We emphasized in the first article of this treatise advertising on a generous scale. This suggests that some knowledge of advertisement writing may be of practical value. That such work is by no means easy will be readily apparent to anyone who has attempted it, or who has read the badly written announcements that too often appear in all kinds of journals. The prime fault of the amateur advertisement writer is that he so overcrowds his canvas that nothing can be seen clearly; to emphasize everything is to emphasize nothing. However, we do not pretend to instruct in this difficult art here. We merely point out that where a magazine is financed largely by advertisements, the librarian may be called upon to write or re-write his advertisers' notices, and a practical knowledge of how it can be done will be useful.

Our next consideration will be the Index and the relation of the magazine to the card catalogue.



## THE GREENWOOD LIBRARY FOR LIBRARIANS.



THE large and valuable "Librarians' Library" formed by Mr. Thomas Greenwood has now been deposited in its permanent home at the Manchester Central Reference Library, where it will remain at the disposal of librarians for all time. It is being catalogued by Mr. W. E. A. Axon, and when this is completed, regulations will be made for lending the books to librarians in any part of the country. The collection contains over 9,000 volumes in all departments of bibliographical science, and includes specimens of early printing, rare manuscripts, and unpublished books in great variety. There are sets of bibliographical magazines; fine editions of all the standard dictionaries of literature and bibliography; works on library economy in all languages; histories and catalogues of famous libraries, and, in short, every kind of book likely to be of service to librarians in their professional work. The thanks of all librarians are due to Mr. Greenwood for this practical evidence of his continued sympathy with the library movement and we think he has endeavoured to carry out a part of the library organization, which, strangely enough, Dr. Carnegie has failed to recognize in this country, though he has realized the need for it in America. We allude to the more efficient training of librarians, and the need for a central organization for carrying on the library and

bibliographical work of the country. Mr. Greenwood has grasped the idea of making the existing libraries more efficient, by ensuring that their custodians shall be men of culture and special knowledge. Dr. Carnegie contents himself with the provision of bricks and mortar, and is evidently quite careless about the soul of the institutions he calls into being. We are not sure if Mr. Greenwood's conception of a library is not greater than Dr. Carnegie's. He wishes to make even the poorest collection of books, even if housed in a barn, a living factor in the social sphere, by ensuring that it shall be cared for by an expert who is capable of expounding its contents in a masterly manner. Dr. Carnegie stops short at building a home which is in many cases a mere sepulchre of unregarded knowledge, because not administered by properly qualified librarians.

We trust Mr. Greenwood's noble benefaction will be a powerful factor in the future advancement of British Librarianship.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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*[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department].*

**Bangkok.**—The King of Siam, desiring to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his father's birth, is enlarging the scope and benefits of the Vajirajan Library, founded in 1881, making it a national library open to all for purposes of reference and research. Dr. O. Frankfurter, who is appointed Chief Librarian, will have a great collection of Buddhist literature in his charge, as well as foreign books.

**Birkdale.**—December 2nd witnessed the opening of the new Public Library, the ceremony being performed by Mr. Hall Caine. Dr. Carnegie gave £5,000 towards the erection of the building, which has been designed by Messrs. George Brown & L. H. Dutch, of Manchester, in an eminently practical manner, utility and suitability to its purpose being aimed at rather than ornate appearance.

**Brighouse.**—Alderman William Smith, the Mayor, has given a pleasant surprise to the townsfolk by his generous proposal to extend the Public Library accommodation and to erect an Art Gallery. The work is being put in hand forthwith, from designs by Mr. R. F. Rogerson, and soon Mr. J. A. Wroe, who has been in charge of the library for some seven years, will have a charming series of rooms under his superintendence.

**Carlow: Ireland.**—Mr. W. Molloy, J.P., is advocating the acceptance of Dr. Carnegie's offer of funds wherewith to build a library or to buy a suitable building. The penny rate necessary for upkeep is, it is said, likely to be privately recouped.

**Carlton.**—The opening of the new Public Library was to have taken place early this month, but owing to the disturbance of engagements likely to result from the parliamentary election it has been determined to postpone the ceremony.

**Castleford.**—The Public Library, designed by Mr. H. C. V. Cale, of Birmingham, was opened by Sir John Austin, M.P., on November 30th, when Dr. Carnegie's gift of £3,000 was duly acknowledged, and wise advice was rendered by the chairman (Councillor G. F. Pennington), Sir John Austin, Mr. Compton Rickett, M.P. and other speakers. The building has accommodation for about 15,000 volumes, and is so designed that the librarian's room commands a view of each department of the library.

**Edinburgh.**—Mr. John Harrison has been unanimously re-elected to the chairmanship of the Public Library Committee; "the right man in the right place," said Bailie M'Michael.

**Exeter.**—The Public Library Committee have under consideration a proposal for the formation of a Musical Loan Library.

**Gainsborough.**—We regret that, owing to a clerical error, Mr. Marshall's gift for the purchase of books for the new library was stated in our last issue to be £5,000 instead of £50.

**Gravesend.**—Sir Gilbert Parker, the well-known M.P. and author, has, at the request of Mr. A. J. Philip, the Librarian, promised a set of his books for the reference department of the Public Library, at the same time expressing his intention to present two pictures for the walls of the committee room.

**Grimsby.**—Mr. Ernest Bailey, the Chief Librarian, gives a satisfactory report of the steady growth of all departments of the library work. The reference library statistics show continued progress, the demand for books on the sciences and arts having increased in this department, as in the lending library, more than for other classes of literature.

**Haverfordwest.**—The townsmen's meeting, held by Mr. H. Price, the Mayor, unanimously decided to arrange for holding an eisteddfod during 1906 for the purpose of raising a fund towards the scheme for securing the Poynton Library for the county of Pembroke.

**Hove.**—The competition for designs for a Public Library resulted in an embarrassing situation. Seventy-one designs were sent in, and the assessor, Mr. John Belcher, A.R.A., reported that every one failed to comply with the conditions, or was otherwise defective. Comments on the competition appeared in various papers and in the issue of the *British Architect* for November 3rd, the competition is thus lam-pooned:—

"There once was a council at Hove,  
Who said to each other, 'By Jove!  
We'll a library build,  
And an architect skilled  
We'll discover to beautify Hove.'  
So architects seventy-one,  
Showed them just how the thing should be done,  
But they answered, 'Oh! no,  
You may all of you go;  
For Belcher says none of you've won.'"



It has been decided to invite ten selected competitors to compete again under amended conditions.

**Inverurie.**—A Public Library has been established by a re-construction of the Town Hall, and was opened by the Rev. James Black on December 2nd.

**Ipswich.**—Mr. Woolnough recently gave an admirable lecture, "Concerning Libraries" to the members of the Ipswich Literary Society, in which he dwelt largely on the reference library department, illustrating his remarks by the aid of a series of lantern views of the British Museum, the Guildhall, the Bodleian, some University libraries and others in private ownership.

**Leeds.**—Considerable surprise has been manifested at the persistent rumour that the Educational Authority desire to obtain possession of the Leeds Institute and to convert it into a Technical School. Mr. James E. Bedford, of Headingly, the President, has made a vigorous "no surrender" protest in the press, and as the library contains over 30,000 volumes, we shall watch the course of events with interest.

**Llanelly.**—Mr. J. Boulton, the Librarian, having brought the matter before his committee it was decided to open the Public Library at 9 a.m. instead of 8 a.m. Why a comparatively small town like Llanelly should for so long have required its library opened to the public at the hour of 8, we cannot imagine. A fine portrait of the late Rev. David Rees of Llanelly, a well-known writer and preacher, has been added to the collection at the library.

**Loughborough.**—Mr. F. W. Topping, the Librarian, is asking the Education Committee for a grant in aid of the children's library stating that the resources of the library, are now overtaxed owing to the enormous increase in the number of borrowers, but at present the committee are unable to give any assistance.

**Neston.**—After over two years waiting it seems that the inhabitants of Neston are to have the advantage of Dr. Carnegie's grant of £1,200, made in September, 1903, and of Mrs. Russell's gift of a site, for a Public Library.

**Oldham.**—Dr. Yates, who has taken very active interest in the Public Library and Art Gallery has been re-elected chairman of the committee.

**Oxford.**—Somerville College has been presented with about 2,500 books which formed the library of the late John Stuart Mill, by the philosopher's step-daughter, and constant companion in his late life, Miss Helen Taylor. The new library at this college was opened last year.

**Peel: Isle of Man.**—The Hon. J. K. Ward, of Montreal, Canada, has offered to give £1,000 towards a Public Library, adding that if the house he was born in could be bought at a reasonable price for a site he would pay for it, provided the town adopt the Act enabling the Commissioners to raise a rate for its support.

**Peterborough.**—We are not surprised to learn that “outrageous” and other such expressions followed the reading of a letter received from the Local Government Board, respecting the proposal to devote part of the proceeds of the sale of the old library to the provision of furniture for the new Public Library. The letter stated the Local Government Board “do not consider that they can properly authorize the use of the sale proceeds in the cost of works of comparatively short life, such as the furnishing of a library or in the purchase of books.”

**Peterhead, N.B.**—Mr. David Scott, the Librarian, reports most satisfactorily on the working of the Public Library; the reference department is specially mentioned as having benefitted by numerous gifts of books including twenty-two volumes from the local Reading Society.

**Portadown : Ireland.**—Mr. T. Gardiner, the Librarian, reports that all the books of the old subscription library, excepting a few still in circulation, have been removed to the new Public Library.

**Reading.**—The local press is making it known that persons not residing in Reading may borrow books from the important lending department of the Public Library for the nominal subscription of two shillings and sixpence a year.

**Ringmer.**—We understand that Lord Monk Bretton is willing to present this pleasant Sussex village with a Workings Men’s Institute, Library and Reading Room.

**Rushden.**—On November 25th, the Marquis of Northampton opened the Public Library built by a grant of £2,500 from Dr. Carnegie. We are glad to note that in the course of his speech the Marquis said :—

“We all enjoy novels so long as they are good, but I wish to raise my voice in protest against many modern novels—novels not for amusement, excitement, or improvement of any kind, but works of a degrading character. I am sorry to say, from what I have heard, some of the worst have been written by lady novelists. Since the time of Jane Austen and George Eliot we have had few good lady novelists. There are many bad ones, whose works, I hope, will not find a way into the Rushden Library.”

**Scotstoun, N.B.**—Mr. Gordon Oswald has made a great gift to the 12,000 or more inhabitants of the Scotstoun estate in presenting, furnishing, and supplying many books to, an institute of which the main features are a library and a newspaper room. Sir S. Chisholm, in opening the building, expressed the gratitude of the community to Mr. Oswald, who not only creates, but also undertakes, the entire cost of maintenance of the institution.

**Sheffield : Walkley.**—This branch library was opened on December 14th, by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, in the presence of a large company, Alderman Brittain presiding over the meeting, and expressing the satisfaction of the community in the accomplishment of the scheme. Mr. H. L. Paterson, of Sheffield, designed the building, Dr. Carnegie providing £3,500 for cost of its erection and the Corporation paying for the site.

**Shildon.**—Dr. Carnegie's offer of £2,000 for building a Public Library does not at present tempt the ratepayers to adopt the Act, an appeal to the electorate having resulted in an overwhelming verdict against the scheme.

**Sydney, N.S.W.**—Mr. Anderson, the Chief Librarian, referring to the noble gift which Mr. Mitchell offers on certain wise conditions, said that the collection is, on its lines, "incomparable with any other in the world." Mr. Mitchell has devoted much time and money to forming this library (of about 15,000 volumes), for which Government will probably provide accommodation by adding a wing to the proposed library buildings.

**Winchester.**—The *Hampshire Observer* recently published an interesting article on Mr. J. T. Burchett and his twenty-one years' work as librarian of the Public Library of this ancient city. After twenty-three years' experience at a railway bookstall, Mr. Burchett started a business, but relinquished it to become Winchester's librarian. His record of the first year showed only 4,288 exchanges, while in recent years the total has oscillated between 34,000 and 37,000. As so much has to be accomplished out of the penny rate—the library, museum, and West Gate upkeep—it is not surprising to learn that the library is starved, and few or no books of value can be purchased. The demand for technical works far exceeds the supply. Winchester sadly needs a Carnegie—not to build, but to endow.

**Wolverhampton.**—Mr. James Gale has made a valuable present to the reference department of the Public Library—a large volume containing permanent photographs of the old mansions and half-timbered houses in and around the town. Of all the subjects of Mr. Gale's clever work only two are now occupied as gentlemen's seats, all the rest have fallen from their high estates, but we must be thankful that the fabrics remain under any conditions of occupation.

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**Mr. J. G. Ayton**, Branch Librarian of Cubitt Town, Poplar, has been appointed one of the district librarians of Glasgow.

**Mr. H. G. T. Cannons**, who was appointed Acting Librarian of Finsbury Public Libraries last April, has now been permanently appointed Chief Librarian, his appointment to date from March 25, 1905.

**Mr. Benjamin Crook**, Assistant in the Public Library, Chorley, has been appointed Assistant in the Leyton Public Library.

**Mr. Wm. K. Dickson, M.A.**, the author and editor of several works, and member of various learned societies has been appointed Keeper of the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, in room of Mr. J. T. Clark. Mr. Dickson, who is a native of Edinburgh, was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates in 1887.

**Mr. James L. Galbraith**, at present Sub-librarian of the University of Glasgow, has been appointed University Librarian in succession to Mr. James Lymburn, who is retiring after thirty-nine years' service in the library.

**Mr. W. G. Hale**, who has so long been in charge of the Public Library at Redruth, is removing to Falmouth to take up other duties. He will be greatly missed in his old quarters.

**Mr. J. Pomfret**, Assistant Librarian at the Blackburn Public Library, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the Darwin Public Library. There were 63 applicants.

**Mr. W. S. C. Rae** has been the recipient of a resolution of appreciation, adopted by the committee of the Public Library at Darwin, on the occasion of his leaving after seven years' service as Chief Librarian, to undertake the like office at Fulham, referred to in our last issue.

**Mr. Robert Rome**, of Lockerbie, has been appointed Librarian to the Public Library at Annan, N.B.

**Mr. Charles W. Starkie**, Librarian of the Manchester Athenæum, has resigned after thirty years' service, and **Mr. J. D. Dickens**, Assistant Librarian, has been appointed as his successor.

**Mr. W. B. Young**, the Sub-librarian of Leyton, has been appointed the first Librarian of Erith.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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ONE of the most practical articles that has come over the Atlantic for some time is "Better Bookbinding for Libraries," by Mr. H. E. Bliss, which appears in the November *Library Journal*. He covers practically the whole question in his article, which is the only one in the number, and we recommend this to the A.L.A. Publishing Board as a suitable "library tract." With regard to the vexed question of open *versus* tight backs he says: "To test the durability of the 'tight back,' or 'raised band' bindings, we have had a number of reference books bound in this manner. Our copy of the bulky 1882 volume of Poole's Index, whose previous half-morocco binding had pulled off after only four years' service, was rebound five or six years ago with a tight back. Since then its wear has been harder than ever before, yet it shows no sign of weakness, and will hold together three times as long as the lighter second supplement, bound at the same time in ordinary library binding and now beginning to part at the joint. This only confirms the statements of the best authorities that for hard-worked reference books, and for permanent bindings on books in use, the tight-back bindings, if properly made, are more durable and more economical in the end." The writer also lays down the law, with which many will agree, that "for permanent binding on valuable books, the practice, not uncommon in England, of binding on 'sheet stock' is beyond question more economical." It is noticeable that he does not advocate the binding of *all* books from the sheets, and here again most will agree. Regarding what he has to say about binding

leathers, we notice that he admits in a half-hearted sort of fashion a fact which has recently forced itself upon observant librarians. It is in connection with that much-abused leather, persian. Books bound in this, "standing unused on the shelves, in ten years lose their strength, and in twenty years are ready to fall to pieces with the gentlest handling. . . . It may be used, however, on books that are to be worn out in five or ten years by hard service." Persian bindings in daily use are as durable as bindings in most other leathers, but persian left to itself rapidly deteriorates. He examines the various materials used in bookbinding, and has many sensible criticisms regarding them. Some of his concluding remarks are worth noting: "At the outset, a code of specifications should be agreed upon with the binder. In preparing books for the bindery, the required sewing, joint, materials, colors, styles of finishing, and the lettering should be specified for each book, or lot, with reference to the size, quality of paper, condition of the book, and its probable use, sometimes its value or its literary character. On a sheet or binding-list, ruled for the purpose, these details should be set down, some of them by means of symbols." Contrary to the experience at most libraries, he has not found the method of sending particulars of each book on a slip satisfactory. Finally, "to obtain economical and satisfactory results in bookbinding for libraries there should be a good understanding and cheerful co-operation between binders and librarians. Yet, as has been said, it is not advisable to depend entirely on the workmanship and honesty of binders. A critical knowledge of methods and materials of the craft is valuable to the librarian, enabling him to draw up specifications which will secure the work best adapted to the economies of his library, and will, moreover, command the respect of the binder." The only fault we have to find with the paper is that it takes no notice of the results of the work of the Sound Leather Committee of the Library Association as set forth in their "Leather for Libraries."

The November *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* is concerned principally with local collections. Miss J. W. Merrill writes on "Wisconsin Documents," there are a number of "Document Notes," Dr. R. G. Thwaites contributes a short paper on the "Gathering of local history material by public libraries," and Dr. H. B. Tanner a note on "A niche devoted to local history." There are also many notes on library progress in Wisconsin, and a couple of illustrations. It is quite evident the *Bulletin* has come to stay.

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Two new magazines have been sent to us this month. The first of these, *Northern Notes and Queries* (price 1s. 6d. ; annually, post free, 6s.) is a quarterly devoted to the antiquities of Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham. The contents of this number, the January one, are: "Clerical celibacy in the Diocese of Carlisle," by Rev. J. Wilson, M.A. ; "Marriage bonds: Carlisle and Durham," by J. J. Howe ; "Notes on the Hedworth family, Durham," by G. B. ; "A Surtees lawsuit," by Colonel H. C. Surtees ; several

other articles and notes, a large number of queries, notices of books, etc. There is also a supplement, paged separately for binding by itself: "The records of the Gateshead Company of Drapers, Tailors, Mercers, Hardwaremen, Coopers, and Chandlers." The editor is Mr. H. R. Reginald. The magazine is exceedingly well produced in tasteful *format*, and we cordially recommend it to all interested.

The other new magazine is the *Journal des Langues Vivantes*, an illustrated bi-monthly designed to assist in the teaching of foreign languages. The number before us is in five languages, French, German, English, Spanish, and Italian, but a subscriber can have any particular part or parts he wants, the subscription varying with the number taken. The price for the year of the complete *Journal* is 9.50 fr., or 40 c. per number. The reading matter of each part varies.



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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### CATALOGUES.

**Deichmanske Bibliothek, Kristiania.** Bogfortegnelse, 14 ; Skjøn-literatur paa engelsk, tysk og fransk. November, 1905. 106 pp. 8vo. Kristiania: J. Chr. Gundersens, 1905.

An annotated catalogue of works in English, American, German, and French literature (Dewey's classes 810-840) in the Deichmanske Bibliothek. The Deichman library and its librarian, Mr. Nyhuus, have a reputation to keep up, and in this catalogue they do so. It is interesting to note what a representative collection of English fiction the library contains. What sort of a collection of Scandinavian fiction could any of our libraries report?

**Pittsburg, Carnegie Library.** Classified catalogue. Part 6 : Literature. pp. 1437-1721. 8vo. 1905. Price 15 cents.

A catalogue of the books in Dewey's class "Literature" (800) with the exception of fiction. An author index is supplied, and a complete subject index will be added when the catalogue is complete. Well annotated, and a catalogue really worth getting.

### REPORTS.

**Blackburn, 1904-05.** Stock 65,935 volumes ; number of borrowers 1,974 ; volumes issued 136,312 (lending 108,605 ; reference 27,964 ; schools 19,743). A scheme for ventilating the library by the aid of electric fans, has been carried out and has proved satisfactory.

**Bury, fourth report, 1904-05.** Stock 16,038 volumes ; borrowers 4,788 ; volumes issued 80,349 (lending 73,545 ; reference 6,804). A system of twenty-four school libraries has been established.

**Hyde, eleventh report, 1904-02.** Stock 12,326 volumes ; volumes issued 60,464 (lending 56,025 ; reference 4,439). "The best books in the library on subjects of national importance have been got together

and displayed on the counter shelves for the perusal of borrowers ; by this means a great number have been selected by the readers. The same with regard to books suitable for young people ; in this class the borrowers make good use of the selection, the pleasing feature being that when a boy or girl selects any of these books there is satisfaction in the fact that they have got something suitable." The question of school libraries has been considered, but dropped owing to lack of financial support from the education authority.

**Keighley**, first report, 1904-05. Stock 14,440 volumes ; borrowers 2,865 ; volumes issued 93,393 (lending 89,746 ; reference 3,647). "A certain number of novels and other popular works are kept on view at the counter. This idea has been much appreciated, fully one half of the borrowers preferring to pick their books from these constantly renewed volumes, to selecting a work from the catalogue." The report contains a "curve" diagram of issues, and a list of books added since the opening.

**Kimberley**, twenty-second report, 1904-05, Stock 31,033 volumes ; volumes issued 47,622 (six months) ; number of subscribers 534. The Government grant of £100 for the purchase of reference books has been withdrawn. Arrangements have been made for the establishment of a museum.

**Manchester**, fifty-third report, 1904-05. Stock 358,287 volumes ; borrowers 56,715 ; volumes issued 2,397,039 (lending 1,941,701 ; reference 455,338). Arrangements are being completed for the erection of a new building for the reference library. The most important donation has been the "Library for Librarians," containing about 8,400 volumes dealing with bibliography, palæography, printing, bookbinding, and library economy, presented by Mr. Thomas Greenwood. Extra non-fiction tickets have been issued.

**St. Helen's**, twenty-seventh report, 1904-05. Stock 40,139 volumes ; volumes issued 191,653 (lending 185,033 ; reference 6,620). During the year the committee have decided to black out betting news, and the result has been "a decided improvement in every way." Nernst lamps have been substituted for the ordinary incandescent lamps with great success.

**Stockport**, 1904-05. Stock 25,427 volumes ; borrowers 4,620 ; volumes issued 119,585 (lending 116,063 ; reference 3,522). The most important consideration is want of space. The borrowers crowding the lending library obstruct people wishing to get to the reading rooms, and "considerable irritation" is displayed ; while the main gangway in which the staff work, is twenty-two inches wide. The reference library is in as bad a state. Clearly here is an opportunity for some local Carnegie to gain immortality, and we trust one will soon come to light.

**Westminster**, 1904-05. Stock 112,609 volumes ; borrowers 11,438 ; volumes issued 496,589 (lending 311,614 ; reference 184,975). Sunday opening has been introduced at the St. Martin's Lane Library.

Owing to books being stolen from the open reference department at that library, it has been decided that in future the department shall be worked on the closed system.

**Worcester**, 1904-05. Stock 43,886 volumes; volumes issued 182,442 (lending 156,180; reference 26,262). The year has been one of steady progress. An up-to-date catalogue of the Worcestershire collection has been prepared.

## BULLETINS.

**Manchester**: *Quarterly Record*. The usual classified list of additions to the reference library, with an author index.

**Nottingham**: *Library Bulletin*, December. Congratulations to the *Bulletin* on attaining its centenary! It has now been in existence for over nine years, and has proved an invaluable aid in arousing and maintaining interest in the work of the library. This number contains various illustrations and portraits in addition to the usual features.

**St. Louis**: *Monthly Bulletin*. November. Annotated list of additions; easy reading in foreign classics; novels dealing with the middle ages; books for boys and young men; reading for leisure hours in college.

**Sunderland**: *Library Circular*, October. Notes; books added to the library; *The Flagellants*, by J. A. C. Deas (reprinted from *Flashes*); Sir Henry Irving's connection with Sunderland (with facsimile of first play-bill).

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**Cardiff Public Library**. Bibliography of Wales. Part 21, October, 1905. A part of the useful record of books in Welsh or relating to Wales, now, owing to the discontinuance of the library's magazine, issued as a separate pamphlet.

*Bury Public Library and Art Gallery*. A paper by Harry Townend, read before the North Western Branch of the Library Association on 12th October, 1905. Contains an historical account, with recent statistics, and one or two illustrations.





## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**The Broadway Booklets**, London: Geo. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905], n.d. 12°, 5½", Price 1s. each.

ANSON (W. S. W.) *Ed.* Elizabethan lyrics. pp. 46.

ARNOLD (Matthew). The Scholar gipsy and the Forsaken mermaid. pp. 46.

BROWN (John). Rab and his friends. pp. 46.

BROWNING (Robert). Dramatic lyrics: a selection. pp. 62.

— The Pied piper of Hamelin, and other dramatic romances and lyrics, pp. 46.

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE in sacred song, a selection of favourite hymns pp. 46.

COLERIDGE (S. T.). The Ancient mariner. pp. 44.

FITZGERALD (Edward). Euphranor, a dialogue on youth. pp. 92.

GOLDSMITH (Oliver). The Traveller. *Illust.* by B. Foster. pp. 44.

IRVING (Washington). Old Christmas. pp. 80.

LOCKER-LAMPSON (Frederick). London lyrics. pp. 76.

MACAULAY (Lord). Lays of Ancient Rome. pp. 94.

POE (E. A.). The Raven, the Bells, and other poems. pp. 44.

PUNCH AND JUDY. *Illust.* by George Cruikshank. pp. 58.

SHAKESPEARE (W.) Songs. *Illust.* by etchings of Etching Club. pp. 44.

TENNYSON (Alfred Lord). A Dream of fair women, and The Palace of art. pp. 46.

WHITMAN (Walt). Leaves of grass, a selection. pp. 60.

A dainty and high-class series of reprints of first-rate works, produced in a very charming style. They are nice specimens of reprints of the shorter classics, and we should like to see this plan extended to include the great short stories of the world. A series of this kind appeared in America a good many years ago, and we believe it was a success.

**Blake** (William, 1757-1827). Poetical works. A new and verbatim text from the manuscript, engraved and letterpress originals, with variorum readings and bibliographical notes and prefaces by John Sampson, Librarian in the University of Liverpool, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1905. 8°, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. xxxvi + 384. *facsimiles*. Price 10s. 6d. net.

Mr. Sampson describes this desirable and scholarly edition of Blake as "a complete collection of Blake's poems, including all lyrical and metrical pieces scattered throughout his prose works and visionary writings." The result is a complete and original text, with full biographical particulars, which should find a place in every collection of English poetry.

**Blomfield** (Reginald) Studies in architecture. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 9", xii. + 226, *illustr.* Price 10s. net.

*Contents*.—Byzantium or Lombardy; Andrea Palladio; The Architect of Newgate (George Dance, the younger); A hundred years of the French Renaissance; Philibert de l'Orme; The Italians at Fontainebleau.

These interesting and admirable studies, are essays reprinted from reviews, fully illustrated, and form a useful book of reference on various architectural subjects. The studies on the influence of the Italians in architectural design; and the separate monograph on Palladio; and the valuable paper on old Newgate Prison, are authoritative contributions to these subjects. Now that Newgate is superseded, it is worth while to purchase this book for the excellent and well-illustrated article on such an historic building.

**Bonser** (A. E.). Cassell's Natural history for young people. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 9", pp. viii. + 280, *illustr.* Price 6s.

A popular account of zoology, in simple language, extending from the mammalia down to the lowest forms of life, with full descriptions of typical animals in each class.

This is an excellent book for the young naturalist or nature-study enthusiast, and should be included in every children's library. The descriptions are clear, concise, and interesting, while the full-page illustrations, of which there are over 100, are really very fine.

**Collins** (John Churton). Studies in poetry and criticism. London: George Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. x. + 310. Price 6s. net.

*Contents*.—The Poetry and Poets of America; Lord Byron; William Watson; Gerald Massey; Miltonic myths and their authors; Longinus and Greek criticism; The true function of poetry.

Another collection of Mr. Collins' masterly essays in literary criticism, reprinted from various sources, and revised. They show Mr. Collins at his best, as an appreciative, yet keen critic, whose careful comparative analyses of poetical structure and thought will be found a revelation in method by the ordinary student of English literature. In critical work of this kind, Mr. Collins' wide reading and knowledge are remarkably well displayed.

**Evans** (Herbert A.). *Highways and byways in Oxford and the Cotswolds, with illustrations by Frederick L. Griggs.* London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xvi + 408, *maps*. Price 6s.

Excursions in the city of Oxford, Woodstock, Banbury, Wroxton, Edgehill, Epwell, Stow-on-the-wold, Naunton, Sudeley, Coln Valley, Cirencester and other historical and picturesque localities and villages in the Cotswolds and Oxfordshire.

This is an excellent addition to the "Highways and Byways" series, in which the interest is sustained throughout by both text and illustrations.

**Fielding** (Henry, 1707-54). *The History of Tom Jones, a foundling* [1749]. London: Geo. Bell & Sons, 1905. 2v., 8°, 6½". Price 4s. net.

A convenient and handy reprint of Fielding's great novel, with an accurate text, and free from editorial interferences. It forms an addition to Messrs. Bell's "York Library."

**Montaigne** (Michael de —1533-92). *Essays, translated by Charles Cotton* [1685-6]. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", 3v. Price 6s.

Montaigne's essays [1580-88] as translated by Cotton in 1685-6, have been revised by Mr. W. Carew Hazlitt, and supplied with notes and a brief biography.

A reprint in the "York Library" of Messrs. Bell & Son, distinguished as usual by clearness, compactness and accuracy.

**Rea** (Hope). *Peter Paul Rubens.* London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xvi. + 139. *illust., bibliography.* Price 5s. net.

A biographical and critical account of Rubens (1577-1640) the German-Flemish artist, with a catalogue of his chief paintings and their present homes, and reproductions of many of his best works.

A volume of Bell's Handbooks of the great Masters in Painting, comprising the usual features of good illustrations, and an adequate and interesting text.

**Reynolds** (Cuyler). *The Diner out, a classified collection of apt quotations for toasts, after dinner speeches, occasional addresses, menus, and other details connected with the proper ordering of the dinner table.* London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1905]. 8°, 4", pp. iv. + 252. Price 1s. net.

A volume in the miniature series of reference books, whose contents are sufficiently expressed by the title.

**Wade** (John). *Introduction to the study of organic chemistry . . . New and enlarged edition.* London: Sonnenschein & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xx. + 646, *illust.* Price 8s. 6d. net.

A text-book on the carbon compounds for students in universities and technical schools, with a laboratory course.

A new edition of this useful manual, much enlarged, and with additional illustrations, which render it one of the best and most practical teaching text-books.

**Wyllie** (W. L.), *A.R.A.*, J. M. W. Turner. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 8". pp. x + 204. *illustr.*, 4 col. Price 7s. 6d. net.

The biography of Turner (1775-1851), with critical appreciations of his chief works, written by a well-known marine painter, and a catalogue of Turner's principal exhibited works.

This is a very interesting contribution to the "British Artists Series," containing as it does, views of a modern painter of eminence on the work of a past master in the same kind of subject. It is well and sympathetically written, and gives, on the whole, a clearer view of Turner and his works than many other more pretentious literary biographies. The illustrations are numerous and well-produced.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**T**HE first monthly meeting of the present session was held at the London School of Economics, Clare Market, W.C., on Monday, November 27th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. W. R. B. Prideaux, B.A., Assistant Librarian, Royal College of Physicians, read a paper on

"PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND REGISTRATION—SOME SUGGESTIONS."

The chair was taken by Mr. Lawrence Inkster, of Battersea, and there was an attendance of about 30.

The paper was a brief and well-reasoned plea for an official register of persons qualified to conduct a library. Mr. Prideaux would make registration purely voluntary in the experimental phase of the scheme, any librarian having had charge of a library of 20,000 volumes or more for three years to be eligible, and others to become so by qualifying in any three sections of the examination syllabus of the Library Association. A small fee for registration would be charged. After a stated period registration should be by examination only.

The debate, which was a brisk and interesting one, was taken part in by Messrs. Savage, Snowsill, Clarke, Kettle, Jast, Philip, Hulme, Bond, Hopwood, Sayers, and others, and on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the hon. secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Prideaux, who replied on the discussion.

### LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

**T**HE eighth annual dinner of this body took place on Wednesday, November 29th, 1905, at Anderton's Hotel. Mr. H. D. Roberts, who was accompanied by Mrs. Roberts, occupied the chair. For the first time ladies were present, and altogether about eighty members and visitors attended. Among the visitors present were Mr. H. Bond (Woolwich), Mr. and Mrs. Brown (Islington), Alderman Eve (Stoke Newington), Mr. G. K. Fortescue (British Museum), Mr. W. W.

Fortune, Mr. E. W. Hulme (Patent Office), Mr. L. S. Jast (Croydon), Mr. Peplow (Deptford), Mr. Preece (Stoke Newington), Mrs. Reilly (Library Association), Mr. Soper (Exeter), and Mr. and Miss Welch (Guildhall). The programme was a lengthy one, comprising thirty items, such as toasts, songs, pianoforte and violin solos, part songs and recitations, and the whole was gone through in a most pleasant and enjoyable manner. Many members who had been present at former dinners, spoke of the eighth annual gathering as the most successful of all. The toasts were spoken to by Mr. P. C. Bursill, Mr. W. C. B. Sayers, Mr. G. E. Roebuck, Mr. G. K. Fortescue, Mr. L. S. Jast, Mr. W. B. Thorne, Mr. W. J. Harris, Mr. Alderman Eve, Mr. E. G. Rees, and Mr. H. D. Roberts. Messrs. Courtney, Harris, Vellenoweth, Moslin, Cogswell, Newcombe and others entertained the company, and a most agreeable innovation was the contribution of music by Misses Upton, Woolmington, Rees and Moslin. The only comment we have to offer on a function which was pleasant, well-conducted, and influential as regards its effect on those present, is that there were too many speeches. Beyond the formal toast of the King, the L.A.A. and the Chairman, all others are unnecessary in a body so well able to entertain its members from the talent in its own ranks.

#### THE PSEUDONYMS.

A NUMBER of the Chief Librarians in the Profession assembled at The Clachan in Soho, to enjoy the hospitality of Ossian, who assumed the chair, and in spite of the standing orders, insisted upon entertaining the members as his guests. For this noble action he obtained the heartiest felicitations of his colleagues. The menu comprised Hotch Potch, Haggis, Scotch Collops, Tay Salmon, Haunch of Venison from the Moor of Rannoch, Cheviot mutton, Deeside grouse, and Athole brose. The liquid accompaniments were in keeping. In opening his remarks, Ossian alluded to the dinner rules of old John Bulwer, which were so admirable, but so rarely observed in every particular. He quoted them as follows:—

“Stridor dentium  
Altum silentium  
Rumour gentium.”

And translated them as:—

“Work for the jaws  
A silent pause  
Frequent ha, ha's!”

He pointed out that the jaw-work had been accomplished, together with a proportion of the laughter, and then proposed that the “silent pause” should be devoted to drinking, in silence, the memory of a dearly-beloved brother, recently departed. The members thereupon stood up, and in solemn silence pledged the memory of their lost friend.

The chairman objected to the labour imposed upon him of having to demolish the proposals which had been made from time to time for centralizing the work of cataloguing and otherwise dealing with the

World's Literature. He hinted that if the proposers of such wild schemes had taken the trouble, as he had done, to calculate the enormous cost of such a plan and its final uselessness, its impracticability would have struck them, as it had him, with the force of a well-directed sand-bag. Most of the proposals he had seen for central cataloguing were based upon a very incorrect conception of the magnitude of the task. It was easy, for example, to talk glibly about the annual output of good books, and assume that such books alone were worth cataloguing. A central cataloguing bureau which was based upon the idea of *selection* from the the publications of the world was bound to come to grief, because, unless universality could be aimed at, it would be impossible to satisfy enquirers. The existing books in the world, excluding MSS., numbered about 30,000,000, and this total was now being added to at the rate of 500,000 items per annum. There were between 50,000 and 60,000 periodicals alone, and when one added official publications and music, with other more or less local matter, the total became so enormous that even half-a-million was a modest computation of the world's annual literary output. Now, a cataloguing Bureau to be of any service must deal with past as well as present-day books. Assuming, therefore, that an adequate stock of cards must be kept for all kinds of demands, both current and future, we must print at least 1,000 copies of every title, because, in many cases, over three copies will be required to adequately catalogue a single book. This, to date, gives a total of 30,000,000,000 cards as a stock to start with! Now, imagine, this nice little stock stored in boxes 6" + 4" + 12, properly guided. There would be 30,000,000 of these, occupying 15,000,000 lineal feet, or 2,840 statute miles! Stocked in tiers eight feet high, or twenty-four boxes deep, this would occupy 118 statute miles, and would necessitate the use of a motor car, even if arranged in quarter-mile laps, to get from A to M! The same thing holds good as regards current books, allowing for a limited annual increment. Here, again, 2,500 lineal feet per annum is needed for storage, or very nearly half-a-mile, so that in a few years' time, even Strathmore or the Moor of Rannoch could not store the accumulations, unless they were kept in stacks a mile high! On the financial side the outlook was even worse:—

30,000,000 boxes @ 1s. each	£1,500,000
Racks to place them in @ 6d. a foot run (8 feet high!)	15,576
30,000,000,000 cards @ 4s. per 1,000	6,000,000
30,000,000 Titles @ 6d. each	750,000
	<hr/>
	<u>£8,265,576</u>

The current literature scheme alone would cost about £2,400 per annum, exclusive of rent, rates, lighting, salaries, apparatus, &c. What the full scheme would cost annually over and above the original total of £8,265,576, only experience or Lucifer himself could tell. The rate of depletion by orders and subscribers would be paltry in compar-

ison to the rate of accumulation, so that very little relief could be expected from such sources. In conclusion, Ossian pointed out that in his opinion the only solution of the difficulty as regards current books was for every publisher to see that each new book carried its own descriptive catalogue entry, either on slips or cards, attached like fly leaves or end papers. The Library Association could draw up rules, and every author could describe his own book in accordance with them, and the rest of the business would be easy. In the subsequent discussion, most of the members expressed objection to any scheme of central cataloguing on the grounds of expense, the danger of it suppressing all originality; and particularly the risk of having a cataloguing monopoly or trust forced upon librarianship. Some feeble efforts were made to controvert Ossian's conclusions, but as no one was able to check his figures, the opposition fizzled out like a damp squib.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### "GAINSBOROUGH LIBRARY."

SIR,—In your description of the above, in the *Library World* for the present month, you state: "The only weak point of this plan seems to be insufficient storage space for the books of a library which is certain to grow to large proportions in such a town as Gainsborough."

Your sketch plan does not show it, and it probably was not pointed out to you, that over the librarian's room and offices are two large store and repairing rooms, reached by a staircase near the door into librarian's room. We think the two rooms are likely to supply all storage space required. We must congratulate you on the excellence of the reproduced photograph.

SCORER & GAMBLE,

*Architects and Surveyors.*

*Lincoln.*



## BRITISH COLONIAL AND AMERICAN LIBRARY LEGISLATION.

By JAMES DUFF BROWN, *Borough Librarian, Islington.*

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THE difficulty of obtaining information on the library laws of other countries and our own colonies has for long proved a stumbling-block to students of librarianship in England; and it is for their benefit, and under pressure of a constant demand for this kind of information, that these imperfect notes are now printed. It is very difficult to keep this particular kind of matter up to date, and for any notifications of inaccuracies I shall be deeply grateful.

**British Colonial Library Legislation** has proceeded very much on the lines adopted in the Mother Country, and in every case the permissive character of the Acts has been preserved, and, in most cases, the rate limitation. On the other hand, some effort has been made to keep in touch with schools and universities.

In **South Africa** a Government proclamation established the South African Public Library at Capetown in 1818. This was further regulated by an ordinance passed in 1836, which gave the library the right to receive a free copy of every publication issued in CAPE COLONY. Other libraries in the large towns now receive grants from the Government, and a large number of smaller libraries also receive grants equal to the annual average amount raised by subscriptions and donations during the three preceding years; but in no case shall the amount of the Parliamentary grant exceed £100 for any one library in one year. No grants are made if less than £25 is raised by subscription. In return for the grant, reading-rooms and reference libraries are to be open free to the public, and an annual report has to be presented to the Government. In NATAL the same arrangement is made, though on a much smaller scale. In both colonies books are only lent for home-reading to subscribers. In 1874 an Act was passed by the Legislature of Natal for regulating literary and other societies not legally incorporated.

In **Canada**, under a General Libraries Act of 1854, County Councils were authorized to establish four classes of libraries: (1) Ordinary common school libraries in each school-house for the use of children and ratepayers; (2) a general Public Library available to all ratepayers in the municipality; (3) professional libraries of books on teaching, etc., for teachers only; and (4) a library in any public institution under the control of a municipality. Arrangements were made whereby the Education Office sold books at low rates to the school libraries; and afterwards the Education Department of the Legislature gave annual grants, equal to the amounts contributed by members for book purchase, to Mechanics' Institutes, etc., and subsequently increased such grants for books to \$400 (£80) annually. The



province of Ontario, in 1882, passed "*An Act to provide for the establishment of Free Libraries*," on lines very similar to the English Acts. Power is given any city, town, or incorporated village to provide libraries, newsrooms, museums, and branches, on the petition and with the consent of the qualified electors. The management is vested in a board chosen from the Town Council, citizens other than councillors, and the Public School Boards. The library rate is limited to an "annual rate not exceeding one half of a mill in the dollar, upon the assessed value of all rateable, real and personal property." This form of limitation is borrowed from the practice of the United States, which I shall describe later. About ninety places have adopted this Free Libraries Act in Ontario. In 1895, an Act was passed in Ontario to enable Mechanics' Institutes to change their names, and transfer their property to municipalities on condition that the libraries were made free to the public.

The **Australian** colonies have all passed separate laws, somewhat similar to those in force in other parts of the Empire, in regard to their adoption being left to local option, and rates being more or less limited. In 1870, VICTORIA passed an Act establishing the Library, Museum and National Art Gallery at Melbourne, and in 1885 "*The Free Libraries Act*" was passed. But, in 1890, these Acts were repealed by "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Libraries*." The Melbourne Public Library, which was established in 1853, is now wholly supported by Government, and it lends books to any municipality in the colony. In addition, the Government make grants from public funds to most of the Mechanics' Institutions, Athenæums and other literary societies in Victoria.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA has quite a body of library laws, dating from 1863, when the South Australian Institution was incorporated, but most of them have been repealed or incorporated in the two principal Acts regulating Institutes and Free Libraries. By the various Acts passed in connection with Institutes or Literary Societies, grants in aid are made by Parliament on lines similar to those in force in the other colonies, while rules and regulations are made, and power given to transfer such institutes to the municipalities. Public Libraries are regulated by "*An Act to establish Free Libraries in Corporate Towns and District Councils*," 1898, subsequently amended by an Act of 1902. This Act gives local authorities power, on the request and with the consent of the ratepayers, to adopt the Act, subject to the rate not exceeding 3d. in the £. Municipal libraries are also entitled to receive the same grants as are made to institutes.

IN NEW SOUTH WALES, Public Libraries may be established under the "*Municipalities Act*," 1867. The Government make grants for the purchase of books on a scale according to population, and other funds must be provided by the subscriptions of members. Schools of Art are entitled to receive a Government grant in proportion to the amount of monetary support accorded by the public. In addition, the Sydney Public Library (established in 1869) is entirely supported by the Government, and it sends out carefully selected boxes of books to

128 institutes throughout New South Wales, the entire cost being defrayed by Parliament.

In WESTERN AUSTRALIA, grants are made to institutes as in the other colonies, but there is no general Library Act in existence yet. In 1887 the Government established a Public Library at Perth, and contribute £3,000 per annum for its maintenance. The only legislative enactment concerning libraries in Western Australia I have been able to find is an Act for establishing a Law and Parliamentary Library for the Legislature, which was passed in 1873 and amended in 1889.

QUEENSLAND passed an "*Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Municipal Institutions, and to provide more effectually for local government*," 1878. This was extended by the *Divisional Boards Act* of 1887, and now Municipal Councils or Divisional Boards may make by-laws for the establishment, maintenance and management of Public Libraries. Brisbane Free Public Library, the only library of importance opened under this Act, has an annual grant from the municipal funds varying from £800 to £1,000. 140 Schools of Art throughout the colony also receive Government grants for library and other purposes to the extent of about 8s. 2d. for every pound subscribed by members.

TASMANIA has a model library law, which is worthy of adoption in every civilized country. It is contained in "*An Act to amend the Law relating to Public Libraries*," passed in 1867. It is so short, and so much to the point, that I shall quote the whole of it. After a two-line preamble, it declares that—"The Municipal Council of every municipality may, from time to time, apply such sum as it sees fit, out of the rates of such municipality, in and towards the formation and maintenance of Public Libraries within such municipality." That is the whole Act, and it gives no indication of the grudging limitations which other countries inflict. The only blemish on this admirable statute is the fact that it is not compulsory! Most of the Tasmanian towns being small, only Hobart has put the library law into force, by appropriating a penny rate to the support of the Tasmanian Public Library (1849), which is also maintained by Government grants. The small libraries throughout Tasmania receive grants, on the usual conditions, from the Government.

The library law of NEW ZEALAND is based on a series of Acts, similar to those passed in this country for the regulation of municipal libraries and literary institutions. The principal Acts are: (1) "*An Act to promote the establishment of Public Libraries*," 1869, giving power for the governing body of a city, village, or district to adopt the Act with the consent of the ratepayers, and to levy a rate not exceeding 1d. in the £; (2) "*An Act to confer powers on Public Libraries and Mechanics' Institutes*," 1875—a series of rules for incorporation and management; (3) "*An Act to promote the establishment and support of Public Libraries*," 1877. In this Act it is laid down that the grant for Public Libraries is to be apportioned among provincial districts, in proportion to the population of such districts, and that a subsidy equal to the amount of the library rate is to be paid to municipal

libraries established under the Act of 1869. Free admission to reading-rooms is permitted, but no person to be allowed to borrow unless he contributes not less than 5s. per annum.

None of the **West Indian** dependencies have legislation relating to libraries, although grants are paid from Governmental funds towards the maintenance of libraries in different British possessions. In **India** the Government only subsidises libraries connected with the leading departments of State, such as law and parliamentary libraries for the use of legislators and the Councils forming the Indian Government.

We thus find that the British colonial libraries are established and regulated on lines very similar to the municipal libraries of this country, and that literary institutions of all kinds are incorporated and recognized in the same way as in the United Kingdom. There are numerous differences, however, in points of detail, because, although the permissive clauses are retained for municipal libraries in every case, in some cases, such as Tasmania and South Australia, the rate limit is either non-existent or greatly increased. Again, it is a universal provision in colonial administration for the Governments to assist all kinds of libraries, to the extent of contributing as much money as may be raised by the subscriptions of members or produced by a municipal library rate. Also, more attempt is made, especially in Canada, to embody the libraries as part of the national system of education, and in this respect our colonies are ahead of the Mother Country.

The Library Legislation of the **United States** is of very great importance, because of its variety, liberality and consistent aim to make libraries an essential part of the system of national education.

As Dr. Thomas Bray was the first to procure library legislation in England, so was he the first to obtain a law of this kind in North America. He founded a library in South Carolina, which in 1700 formed the subject of an Act passed by the Legislative Assembly of South Carolina for its regulation and protection. In 1715 a similar law for the same purpose was passed by the Legislative Assembly of North Carolina. In subsequent years many laws were passed by different States for the incorporation and regulation of all kinds of social, subscription, mercantile and other libraries, much on the same lines as were found necessary in other countries, in order to give such associations legal standing and recognition. In some of the States laws have been enacted providing for the payment of an annual grant to proprietary libraries, on condition that they are made free to the general public for reference purposes. This plan of utilizing existing library facilities for the public benefit is common to both the United States and our own colonies, and I can imagine many less effective ways of securing reading privileges at a comparatively cheap rate. It would add enormously to the educational resources of London, for example, if, in return for an annual Government grant, the general public could have access to the reading-rooms of some of the more important literary, scientific and artistic libraries, especially those which are rich in the current periodical literature of other countries.

In the "*Report of the Commissioner of Education*" for the United

States, 1895-96, vol. 1, there is a very elaborate account of the "Library Legislation in the United States," to which reference must be made by those who want minute details of the laws of the different States of the Union. Here it is only possible to deal with the laws affecting school and municipal libraries, and to give typical examples of the legislation in each class.

In 1835, the New York State Legislature passed a law establishing libraries for the school districts of the State. These libraries were much extended and improved by later laws, and till 1853 they practically supplied the place of the Public Libraries. Other States established these school district libraries, open to scholars and all citizens, Massachusetts and Michigan following in 1837, Connecticut in 1839, Iowa and Rhode Island in 1840, and others at various dates down to 1876, when Colorado passed a similar law. The failure of this system in many places led to the first Town Library Law being passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1848, under which the City of Boston was authorized to establish a free Public Library and levy a tax of \$5,000, or £1,000, for its support. This was the first State law passed in America, and in 1849 New Hampshire passed a general law for the whole State. Massachusetts next extended its library law from the City of Boston to the whole State in 1851, and Maine followed in 1854. The other northern States followed slowly, till now nearly all the States, save a few in the South and West, have laws enabling municipal libraries to be established. Previous to this, most of the States, as they became incorporated in the Union, established libraries for the use of the legislative councils in the capital towns of each State, and these State Libraries, as they are called, constitute a very important class of Public Library in the United States. The first actual municipal library opened in the United States was that of the town of Peterboro', in New Hampshire, which in 1833 established and supported out of the local taxes a Public Library, which still exists. From this it appears that there was nothing either in the Federal or State law of the United States to prevent any town from supporting a library at the public expense if it saw fit. The principle of interference in local affairs by central authorities is, however, a thoroughly Anglo-Saxon convention or principle, and though the Federal Legislature in America does not impose local laws on the State authorities, these State legislatures impose the same restrictions upon local municipal authorities which are common throughout the British Empire.

The main provisions of the State library laws of America are :—

- (1) The adoption of the library laws of the State by any city or municipal council, with or without the petition or consent of the ratepayers. The practice differs in the various States, but it is permissive and not compulsory in every State.
- (2) Power to levy a rate for the establishment and support of municipal libraries, varying from the fraction of a mill per dollar on the taxable value of the town to any sum the council may see fit to levy.

- (3) Power to appoint trustees and to do everything necessary for the equipment and efficient administration of the libraries.

It is important to note that in the United States the basis of taxation is entirely different from what it is in this country. Here we adopt rental, minus a certain deduction, as the unit from which to make up the rateable value of a town. In the United States the value of all property is taken, instead of mere rental, as the unit from which the rateable value is built up. If a house in England is worth £420, and rents at £36, it would be assessed at about £30, and the library rate would be levied upon the £30, producing 2s. 6d. In the United States the same house, plus contents, would pay rates on the £420, being the value of the property, but on a smaller poundage. One mill on the dollar is the thousandth part of 4s. 2d., or about one-twentieth of 1d. If, therefore, the library rate in an American town is 1 mill, or the twentieth of 1d., on the dollar, property valued at £420, or \$2,100, would pay a total library rate of about 8s. 6d. Other classes of property, such as live stock, crops, etc., are also taxed, so that in America the produce of even a comparatively small library rate is much greater than in a town the same size in England. For example: the town of Lawrence, in Massachusetts, has a population of 62,559, and its library income is nearly £3,000; while in Reading, with a population of 72,000, the 1d. library rate produces only £1,200. Again, Pittsburgh, with a population of 321,000, appropriates £26,000 for its libraries; while Bristol, with a population of 328,000, can only raise £6,000 from the produce of a 1d. rate. It is the same all over the United States, and this fact should always be kept in mind when comparisons are being made between the library systems of the two countries.

There is just one other point which should be mentioned as illustrative of the difference of the methods of the United Kingdom and the United States in regard to the adoption of the library laws by municipalities. In those States of America where a poll of the citizens is required before the libraries can be established, no special vote is taken, but instead, at the annual election of councillors, the voting papers bear the question: Are you in favour of a library being established at a tax of — mills on the dollar? Thus, at one election the municipal council is returned to office, and their library policy dictated to them by the ratepayers. The liberal library laws of the United States have produced a great number of very large and magnificently equipped Public Libraries, which are administered by well-educated officers, who are paid adequate salaries for the work they accomplish. No other country in the world can show such a scheme of libraries, closely in touch with all the other educational bodies, and recognized by the State as part of the national system of education.

In one respect the library authorities in the United States have shown more wisdom than those of other countries, by establishing Boards of Library Commissioners charged with the responsibility of supervising the library work of the whole of a State. These Library Commissions are established in some of the States, but not in all, and

are generally composed of five or six educational experts. They have power to advise in the establishment of local libraries in every respect as regards selection of books, cataloguing, etc., and may expend public money in the purchase of books for libraries in towns which do not possess municipal libraries. They are also authorized to pay for all clerical work required in connection with the Board, to issue reports and collect statistics, and in some cases to organize travelling libraries. All these State Library Commissions issue handbooks, and those of New Jersey and Wisconsin, which are contained in the L.A. Library, will give some idea of the important work in co-ordinating the literary forces of America now being accomplished by these Commissions.



## BIBLIO-KLEPTOMANIA, AND HOW TO CHECK IT.

*By the REV. M. HYAMSON, Librarian of the Beth Hamedrasch (Jewish) Library, Mulberry Street, E.*

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WE have all occasionally met, or read of, old gentlemen scholars whose love of books was so surpassing great that, when they saw an Elzevir in a friend's house, their love of rare editions made them forget the eighth commandment, and unable to resist the temptation of pocketing what wasn't theirs. The present writer recalls a peculiar incident from the days of his callow youth. He was sent to catalogue a library that had been bequeathed to a public institution. What was his surprise when he found, on arriving at the mansion that housed the books, a noted scholar—a friend of the deceased—calmly writing his name in, and so appropriating every volume that interested him, that was valuable for its intrinsic contents or for its external form.

Such biblio-kleptomaniacs are happily few and far between, and there is no need of legislating to meet the cases of these exceptions. But what measures should be devised to counter-check the ordinary pilferings that go on in Public Libraries?

Circulating libraries present no difficulties, as only ratepayers, or those recommended by them, are entitled to the privilege of taking out books from municipal libraries, and for admission to other libraries special permission is requisite. But the reference departments in Public Libraries are not similarly safeguarded.

Everyone who is not in a disreputable condition has a right to enter and demand books. How are mean book thieves to be excluded? The following are a few of the ordinary methods of supervision and precaution at present employed. The books are stamped; the attendant's desk is near the door, so that readers must pass twice before the attendant's scrutiny, once on entering and again on leaving. Books are handed to the readers at the tables where they sit, so that they can be identified. Attendants are not overworked, so that their senses are

keen and alert. Readers sign forms with their names and addresses. Still, experience shows that all these precautions break down in practice. There is nothing easier than to give a false name and address. In spite of the utmost vigilance on the part of attendants, books are slipped into capacious overcoat pockets, and it is hardly safe to stop one suspected of taking a book, for if the suspicions turn out to be baseless there is the risk of an action for false imprisonment. Marks on books can be obliterated, thus precluding identification. Hitherto no system that is infallible has been discovered for preventing that mean form of theft—the stealing of books.

The following is a plan tentatively suggested in the hope that it will elicit comment and criticism. Let a porter stand at the door whose duty it will be to issue metal numbered checks to the readers. Each reader who wants a book enters the number received on his reader's slip, and on receipt of the book gives up the metal check to the attendant. When he returns the book, he receives in exchange his numbered metal check. If requiring another book, the first form is cancelled, and the same number is put on a second form.

When leaving the library he returns the check to the porter at the door. This it is submitted would effectually prevent theft, for no one could enter the library without a numbered check. No one could obtain a book without giving up his check; no one would give up his book without receiving back his check; no one could leave the library without giving up his check. The porter at the door would be responsible if, at the close of the day, his checks did not tally. If they did tally and books were still missing, the attendant at the desk would have to bear the brunt. I hope this suggestion will elicit a fruitful discussion from the pens of those experienced in the management of Public Libraries.



## LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

(Continued from page 183.)

### IX. THE INDEX.

77. Whatever form the library magazine assumes, the index must be considered. No class-list is regarded as complete without an index, and we should advocate an author index to every issue of the bulletin if such were practicable. Here, as everywhere else in librarianship, expense is the chief obstacle. The index is not indispensable to single issues, as a twelve or sixteen page class list demands no great search to discover any entry; but we suggest that such an index would give a special finish to the magazine. At the end of the year or on the completion of a volume the index question assumes a more imperative

character ; it is indispensable if the magazine is to have any permanent value. The primary purpose of the magazine is to present additions as they become part of the library ; consequently it is temporary in its very nature. But its use can be extended by the provision of an author index for the four or six issues of the year. Then the magazine becomes a printed catalogue of additions for the period covered, as well as a chronicle of library history. The index need not be expensive. A volume of 100 pages, distributed to 1,000 readers could be efficiently indexed at a cost of £3 15s. or 7s. 6d. per page, and could probably be produced at a cheaper rate. Libraries issuing complete printed catalogues could use these volumes as supplements for the years between the editions of the catalogue ; those libraries, however, which do not issue such catalogues, will find it advisable to publish a cumulative index for every five years of the magazine in addition to the ordinary annual index.

78. Index entries should be made on small ruled slips of paper. A convenient size is  $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2''$  ; these are quite large enough for the entries.

79. The index may be very simple, and few rules are necessary for its compilation. The following, however, may be borne in mind.

#### RULES FOR INDEXING.

1. Abbreviate titles to the fewest words compatible with clearness, but do not alter anything ; thus "Pictures of Bird Life on Woodland, Meadow, Mountain, and Marsh," may be cut down to "Bird Life."
2. Give only initials of authors' names, except in the case of two authors with the same surname and the same initials ; in this case spell out the forenames sufficiently to show the distinction between the two.
3. Enter pseudonymous entries under the real name when known, but also under the pseudonym. The pseudonym or real name must be bracketed after the entry name. The two entries would appear thus :  
*Lee, V.*, (V. Paget). Penelope Brandling.  
 Paget, V., (*V. Lee*). Penelope Brandling.  
 If an economy is necessary enter the book under the real name and make a cross-reference from the pseudonym. As in the foregoing examples, known pseudonyms will always be printed in italics.
4. Give the paging to which the index entry refers after the title in brackets ; e.g.  
 Penelope Brandling (75)
5. The Index, like the catalogue proper, is to be "Union," giving the library letters, and classification or the charging numbers, e.g.,  
 Wernle, P. Christianity (33) ENSW 270
6. Omit the imprint and all bibliographical particulars except those indicated in the foregoing rules.



80. These rules are for the simplest form of author-title index. If rigid economy need not be observed, title entries may be added if thought desirable. This index is for the catalogue part of the magazine only. The magazine must have in addition a general index which summarizes the main headings of the whole of the publication. This is usually very brief and is printed in front of the book index.

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#### X. RELATIONS WITH PRINTERS.

81. It is impossible to lay too much stress on the necessity of sending good clean copy to the printer. Unless this is done, many vexatious blunders creep into print, and the item "Corrections" in the printer's bill mounts up in an alarming fashion. All catalogue copy, therefore, must be carefully checked and revised, not only as regards correctness of form and matter but also as regards perfect legibility. One practical mechanical method is worth noting. The annotation is the portion of the entry most subject to alteration, and should therefore be drafted out on a small slip—one similar in size to that used for indexing will do—so that it can be revised before being written on the catalogue slip.

82. Assuming that all the catalogue slips have been revised, they will next have to be prepared for the use of the printer. To set up directly from loose piles of slips is a clumsy proceeding, and it will be found best to paste the slips down on to sheets of cheap mounting paper in order to get the copy into page form. To take the size of catalogue slip we recommend, mounting paper in sheets 20" × 11" will be found most convenient. Descriptions of all sorts of elaborate methods of pasting the catalogue slips on to the sheets have appeared in the professional journals, but the simplest and most practical way is to draw two lines of paste down the sheet, so that the slips will be held by the ends. By this means, it is not necessary to paste the slips at all; they are simply placed one after another on the pasted sheet. A margin should be allowed for down the left hand side of the sheet to take any necessary instructions to the printer.

83. In § 20 we gave some brief instructions for marking the copy for the printer; these will generally be found to be all that are necessary. In any case, printers marks are so widely known that it will be unnecessary to dwell further upon them here.

84. As a general rule, three separate proofs should be demanded from the printer. The first, of course, is the ordinary proof in galley form; the second is a revise of the first, also in galley form and usually on different coloured paper; the third is a final proof made up into pages as in the completed magazine. These three proofs should invariably be obtained, and carefully checked. It is surprising how errors do escape unnoticed while in the proof stage, and yet become so strikingly obvious after the magazine is printed off. However, if the print is carefully checked, especially in the first proof and the revise,

very few errors should get through. The third proof, or make-up, must be examined to ensure that no lines or letters have been dropped from the bottoms of the pages and that any continued matter has been properly indicated at the tops of pages. It may occasionally be found when the magazine is made up that there is too much matter or that some more is necessary to fill the requisite number of pages. This can easily be put right at this stage.

85. After the proofs have been corrected and the magazine printed off, the manuscript copy should be roughly bound in brown paper and permanently preserved for reference. This is easily done with a staple or two or with needle and thread and some paste. The copy thus filed will be found useful to settle catalogue queries that may arise from time to time.

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#### XI. THE MAGAZINE AND THE CARD CATALOGUE. CONCLUSION.

86. Nearly all the cataloguing material used in the library magazine is of service in connection with the card catalogue. The nature of the card makes it eminently suitable for preserving the catalogue entries made in the magazine, which are, as we have shown, very much fuller and more elaborate than those made in the average complete printed catalogue. We do not intend to deal with the pros and cons of the card catalogue in this place; but these chapters would be incomplete did we not make reference to this, one of the principal uses of the magazine. When the magazine is printed, a sufficient number of copies should be struck off on bank paper, and on one side of the paper only. This is an inexpensive item. Bank paper should be insisted upon as it is tougher, takes a cleaner impression than most other papers, and is more impervious to paste. These copies should be carefully cut up and each entry pasted on a card. The same entry may be used for each card required for any particular book—four cards per book is a very fair average—and the added headings hand-printed on the card. Small narrow slips of bank paper should be pasted at the bottom of the back of the catalogue card to counteract the extra thickness formed at the top of the card by pasting on the entry. Another method to counteract this is to make a dent near the bottom of the card with an awl or to prick it with a pin; but the paper is more satisfactory. It is the practice of some libraries to add to the durability of the entry by coating it with mastic varnish when it is dry; but varnish is unpleasant to use and turns the card yellow; and it is doubtful whether the extra wearing value is worth the troubled involved.

87. Reading lists and catalogue matter other than actual addition entries should also be mounted and preserved on cards. With reading lists this is especially important; they are regarded by many as the most useful part of the library magazine, and as they involve considerable thought and time in their compilation, care should be taken that they may be always accessible in card form. By this means they may

be kept strictly up to date, and revised from time to time. After a few years it may be desirable to reprint them in the library magazine, and if they are thus ready to hand much time will be economised. Besides, by having them filed on cards it is possible to amalgamate with them in one sequence any manuscript lists that may be in existence, thus forming an invaluable reference tool for the library.

88. We have now made a fairly comprehensive study of the whole subject of library magazines. We do not claim that every point involved has received consideration ; but we believe that with these chapters in mind any librarian may produce a magazine which shall be a credit to his library, and shall embody many of the ideals of relationship between library and reader. There is still much want of comprehension as to what is and what is not a library magazine. Some are still inclined to make it a compound parish magazine and local newspaper. It is against this view that we have chiefly directed our efforts. Whatever bypaths we stray into in our daily work, the ultimate end of them all must be to display our books—not merely where they are, but what they are. Lectures, exhibitions, reading circles have all this one aim and end, if they are working aright. And the library magazine should show in its cataloguing work the merits and the limitations of every book that comes within the library walls. Once this is realized there will be no more library magazines which reprint archæological and botanical articles from local newspapers, or who quote aimless literary truisms from the poets and critics ; but they will become in the truest sense, by annotation, reading list, and literary causerie, keys to the library that sends them forth.

THE END.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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*[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department].*

**Aberdeen.**—Mr. G. M. Fraser, the Librarian, has, with a view to reduction of expenditure at the Public Library, had to discontinue the purchase of a number of papers and periodicals. The committee desire to effect a saving of about £30.

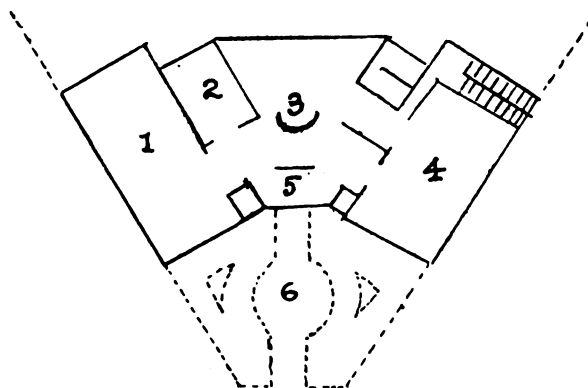
**Accrington.**—The library of the late Mr. William Ashworth, comprising over 5,000 volumes and including many rare works, has come into the possession of the Public Library. Mr. Ashworth was for many years secretary of the Accrington Co-operative Society, and a great lover of books.

**Birmingham.**—The new catalogue of the lending departments of the Public Libraries contains particulars of some 31,000 volumes, and sells at fourpence ! Mr. A. Capel Shaw and his assistants must have taken an enormous amount of trouble in the compilation and the condensation of entries within the 250 pages of the catalogue.

**Bristol.**—One of the three panels on the exterior of the Central Library is the subject of a large illustration in *The Builder*, January 20th. It is a striking piece of sculpture by Mr. Charles Pibworth, and consists of seven life-size figures, the central representing King Alfred, all conventionally treated.

**Cardiff.**—Mr. Ballinger, the Librarian of the Central Library, while recently recuperating his health at Builth Wells, visited the home of William Williams, the hymnologist, and secured some old and rare books.

**Cardiff: Cathays.**—The design selected for this library appeared in *The Building News* recently. Messrs. Speir & Beavan, of Cardiff, the architects, have had a somewhat difficult site to deal with, it being at the junction of two roads meeting at an acute angle. All the public rooms are on the ground floor, and, being grouped somewhat in fan-shape, the effect is both pleasant and suitable.



CATHAYS LIBRARY.

1. Reading Room. 2. Ladies' Room. 3. Lending Department. 4. Children's Room.  
5. Entrance. 6. Fore-court.

**Edinburgh.**—The keeper of the library of the Faculty of Advocates was, on January 17th, able to report at the annual meeting, the receipt of various interesting additions to the collections. Special mention should be made of a collection of original papers, thirty in number, relating to the Darien Expedition. Another important donation is Boswell's Consultation Book. The autograph inscription is as follows:—“The Consultation Book of James Boswell, Esq., of Auchinleck, Advocate, who put on the Gown 29th July, 1766. Written with his own hand.” Mention should also be made of the Note Books, in thirty-three volumes, of the late Lord Gifford, presented by his son.

**Genoa, Italy.**—Prof. Paglianini, who is responsible for the great and valuable catalogue of books in the University of Genoa records translations into the Italian language of many English works. Shakespeare stands easily first in number of volumes, but other of our national authors make no mean show.

**Glasgow.**—On January 10th, Mr. Barrett, the City Librarian, had the pleasure of presiding over a social gathering of the staff of the libraries and friends at the Trades' Hall, when the evening passed very pleasantly, the arrangements being admirable. During an interval ex-Treasurer Murray expressed his pleasure in meeting the staff of the libraries, and his gratification at the success of the libraries already opened, remarking on the very large number of readers who took advantage of the several departments. Treasurer Stevenson also expressed his great and long-continued interest in Public Library work.

A well-produced view of the Crosshill and Govanhill District Library appeared in *The Builders' Journal*, January 17th. Mr. James R. Rhind, the architect, has so planned the building that all the rooms are on the ground floor. The reading-room, ladies' reading-room, and the lending department are entered from the main hall. The children's room has a separate porch and doorway.

**Glasgow: Dennistoun.**—The District Library, the fifth to be erected under the Corporation scheme, was formally opened on December 29th by Lord Provost Bilsland, in the presence of a large company of ladies and gentlemen. Councillor Murray, who presided, said that the four libraries already in operation under the scheme were giving very satisfactory results. The Lord Provost, in an interesting address, said that the libraries were becoming centres of attention and interest, and a powerful force for good in the community. The public appreciation of the libraries was gratifying.

The new library is a handsome structure admirably arranged internally. The centre of the ground floor is occupied by the lending department, with a collection of about 10,000 volumes, but the storage capacity is for 20,000 volumes. In the rear is a commodious general reading-room, which will accommodate 330 readers, and is well supplied with papers and periodicals. This room has also a bookcase containing about 400 standard reference works for free consultation. A ladies' room adjoins the lending department on the opposite side. On the first floor are large reading-rooms for boys and girls, with about 600 volumes for reading in these rooms, and a selection of children's papers.

**Gravesend.**—In the Public Library, two tablets—one relating to Dr. Carnegie's gift and the opening by the Mayor, and the other stating the names of the donors of the site—were unveiled on January 9th.

**Greenock.**—At the Public Library plans are under consideration for removing the reference department from the first floor to the top flat. The present reference-room is to be adapted to the requirements of a magazine-room. The periodical tables are to be removed from the newsroom, and their places given to reading stands. The committee have adopted the "two-book" system in order to better the circulation; the extra ticket will be available for non-fictional works only.

**Huddersfield.**—After a career of nearly a century the Huddersfield Subscription Library has expired. It is difficult for the young of the

present day to estimate the useful functions fulfilled by such institutions in former times, or to realise how the isolated condition of country towns induced the more intelligent members of the community to combine to support "subscription" libraries.

**London: Fulham.**—£1,000 has been borrowed for the purchase of books for the new North Branch Library.

**London: Islington.**—The Highgate Hill Unitarian Church authorities have presented the Public Libraries Committee with a collection of about 14,000 books for the Northern Branch Library.

**London: Lambeth.**—Careful statistics having been kept of the number of readers at the West Norwood library on Sundays during the last three months, it has been decided to keep the rooms open on Sundays except during July, August and September.

**London: Westminster.**—The library of the Church House now contains upwards of 15,000 volumes of books and about 10,000 pamphlets, and is especially rich in works relating to ecclesiastical history and biography, and to dogmatic and practical theology.

**Lurgan: Ireland.**—The Public Library, built from plans prepared by Mr. Harry Hobart, of Dromore, was opened on January 8th. The building, which is substantial and an acquisition to the architecture of Lurgan, occupies one hundred feet frontage. A vestibule entrance leads to a spacious hall, which communicates through swinging doors with a recreation room 25-ft. by 25-ft., and a reading room 25-ft. by 40-ft. On the upper floor is the lending library 25-ft. by 40-ft.

**Newcastle-under-Lyme.**—The effect of suitable and attractive lectures on the reading public is illustrated by the report of the Public Librarian that on the day following the delivery of a lecture on Jane Austen every book in the library, either written by Miss Austen or relating to her or her work, was taken out in the forenoon.

**St. Annes.**—On January 10th, Mr. J. W. Spring, Chairman of the Urban Council, opened the Public Library. A local Land Company gave the site, and Dr. Carnegie presented £3,500 for building expenses. The open access system has been adopted, and the lending library is divided from the reading room by a light railing.

**St. Helens.**—Mr. A. Lancaster, the Public Librarian, reports remarkable development in the work of the libraries. Although new branches have been opened at Sutton and Eccleston, and some borrowers had transferred their tickets from the Central Library, there have been large increases at the Central as well as all the branches.

**Shipley: Windhill.**—The Public Library was duly opened on January 6th, in the presence of a large assembly, when Dr. Joseph Wright, of Oxford University, long connected with the Shipley district, gave an address of great interest, mainly on the pleasures of the strenuous life. The library is to be worked in connection with the Saltaire Public Library.

**South Shields.**—Owing to a clerical error, for which we must apologize to Mr. E. Bailey and our readers, a note relating to South Shields Public Library was inserted under the heading of Grimsby in our last issue.

**Stamford.**—Earl Brownlow opened the new Public Library on January 25th, when the proportions and conveniences of the building were much appreciated. Messrs. Hall & Phillips, of Great James St., W.C., are the Architects.

**Sunderland.**—As there are about two hundred blind persons in Sunderland, the Public Library Committee have decided to provide books in embossed type.

**Sydney, New South Wales.**—The Legislative Assembly have decided to erect the building to accommodate the Mitchell Library on a site close to Parliament Houses, and propose to provide a structure worthy of the munificent gift.

**Warrington.**—The Public Library and Museum now possesses a tablet (unveiled on December 19th) announcing that the institution was the first rate-aided museum and library in England. Its history dates back to 1762, and the first librarian was William Ayres, the printer of the earliest newspaper in Lancashire.

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**Mr. Henry T. Coutts**, Librarian-in-Charge of the Lending Department of the Croydon Central Library, has been appointed first Branch Librarian of the Islington Public Libraries.

**Mr. J. A. L. Downey**, Assistant Librarian, has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, West Hartlepool.

**Mr. A. Fairhurst** has been appointed Librarian to the Society of Accountants, Edinburgh.

**Mr. Gillam** has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, Sevenoaks.

**Mr. Lawrence J. Gomme**, who has for over five years been Assistant Librarian at the Royal Institute of British Architects, has retired from the profession and sailed for Canada. He will be much missed from 9, Conduit Street, where his intimate knowledge of the library was at the service of all.

**Mr. Richard Halley** succeeds Mr. McNairn in the Librarianship of Hawick Public Library, having been assistant there for some time. A portrait of Mr. Halley appeared in the *Evening Dispatch* (Edinburgh), January 8th.

**Miss Alice Jones**, Assistant at the Finsbury Public Libraries, has been appointed Senior Assistant in the Islington Public Libraries.

**Mr. C. W. E. Leigh**, who has been Acting Librarian to the University of Manchester, has been appointed Librarian.

**Mr. George S. McNairn**, Public Librarian of Hawick, has been appointed first Librarian of Motherwell Public Library. Mr. McNairn received training in a private library in Edinburgh, and was a member of the Public Libraries' staff for a short period.

**Mr. E. E. Miles** has been appointed Honorary Librarian of the Royal Albert Institute, Windsor, in succession to Dr. Fairbank, who has resigned after twenty-six years' service.

**Mr. John Nelson** has been appointed Librarian-in-charge of Oldpark Road Branch Library, Belfast.

**Mr. C. J. Purnell**, M.A., Assistant in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, has been appointed Assistant-in-Charge of the Reference Department at Croydon Central Library.

**Mr. William Richardson**, the oldest assistant in the Bolton Public Libraries, died on January 11th. He was fifty-five years of age, and joined the staff in 1870. He was recently knocked down by a motor car, but recovered sufficiently to resume his duties at the Central Lending Department, only for a few days, however, for being attacked by bronchitis and pneumonia, he died after three days' illness.

**Mr. Peter Shaw** has been appointed Librarian of Haddington Town and County Library.

**Mr. James D. Stewart**, Senior Assistant at the Croydon Central Library, has been appointed Chief Assistant in the Islington Public Libraries.

**Mr. Henry Walker** has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, Stamford.

**Mr. J. D. Young**, Assistant at the Fulham Public Libraries, has been appointed Sub-librarian of the Greenwich Public Libraries.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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**A**N interesting article is contributed by Mr. J. F. Riggs to the December *Public Libraries* under the title "Why does the school need the library?" In it, he considers the need for co-operation between the Public Library and the school and describes what has already been done. He assumes that the school has a library of its own. "It may be claimed that the school with a well-selected library of its own has no need of the Public Library. True, it has less need of it than one without a library; yet the school library under the most favourable circumstances does not, neither can it hope to, approach the Public Library in scope and completeness. At best it is limited to comparatively few volumes aside from the standard works of reference, and is in charge of a teacher, who is seldom a trained librarian." Schools may receive an inestimable benefit from the presence of a Public Library, but to do so the library and the school must be correlated in a rational way. The children must have the clearest possible direction in the matter of selecting books or parts of books that will supplement the work of the schoolroom. "The plan followed is to have a subject index placed in the hands of the teachers. This is prepared with great care and at great labor. A large number of volumes may be placed under tribute to supplement a single text in the



child's hands. The teacher is enabled to direct the children to certain books, and to particular pages of such books where additional information upon the subject under consideration may be secured; or, if there are many references to a single subject, different children may be directed to different books, and the information gained in addition to that of the text be later reported to the class." He enters a plea for a single authority governing both the Public Library and the school and thus making the library the centre of the schools. The paper forms an interesting continuation to Mr. Stewart's one on "School libraries," which appeared in our last issue. Miss S. V. Seybold describes the co-operative work between university extension and Public Libraries in America. She sums up: "It can easily be seen how close is the connection between the university extension and the Public Library. The two can not be separated. Neither can one do its best work without the other. The library can co-operate in a number of ways. If there is no university extension, the library should arouse the sentiment which would lead to the formation of a local centre. It need not bear the expenses but simply take the initiatory step in arousing the desire for extension. If there is an auditorium of sufficient size, the library could further co-operate by holding all lectures in its hall. The librarian could be the local secretary and could have charge of the housing and circulation of the travelling library in connection with the lectures. The Public Library could purchase, duplicate, and place in the special alcove or section of the library all books recommended on the lecture syllabus. By printing lists in daily papers of the books recommended on each lecture, by making them available in every way possible, the library would become not only useful to the work of extension but could make popular some of its best material." Miss Sara Jacobsen supplies a short paper on "Book selection from the branch librarian's standpoint." She describes how, by means of inter-library exchanges between central and branch, and branch and branch, it is possible to discover which books not in stock are most constantly in demand. This renders it an easy matter to rectify deficiencies.

There is nothing in the *Library Journal* for December of which special note need be made. The articles are "The collections of the Wisconsin Historical Society on the history of the Middle West," by Mr. A. C. Tilton; "The print made useful," by Mr. F. Weitenkampff, who says that prints ought to be collected and made available, but describes no methods for doing so; and a gossip about "The gentle librarian" by Miss Virginia E. Graeff. The title-page and index to volume thirty accompanies this number.

The January number of the *Library Assistant* opens with a paper by Mr. A. F. Hatcher on "Stocktaking methods." He advocates the closing of the library during stocktaking, and in general adheres to most of the good old well-worn superstitions. Mr. J. G. Faraday contributes a very good brief paper on "Weeding out." Curiously enough, both papers commence by lamenting the dearth of literature on their particular topics, and both end without contributing very much to the sum total.

The December *Folkbiblioteksbladet* is more bulky than its predecessors, and is evidently in a flourishing condition. There is an appreciative article on Henrik Schück the Swedish littérateur, by Axel Hirsch, and L. Wåklin contributes an illustrated description of the Dickonska Folkbiblioteket in Göteborg. The greater part of the number is occupied by reviews of the various branches of current literature. There are several portraits and illustrations.

Mr. F. M. Crunden has contributed an article on "The Public Library as a factor in industrial progress" to the November issue of the *Industrial Exponent*, a St. Louis magazine. He lays emphasis upon the educational side of the library's work, and gives a list of books on technical subjects with the number of times each has been issued. He summarizes the work a Public Library does under the following heads: "1. It doubles the value of the education the child receives in school, and, best of all, imparts a desire for knowledge which serves as an incentive to continue his education after leaving school; and, having furnished the incentive, it further supplies the means for a lifelong continuance of education; 2. It provides for the education of adults who have lacked, or failed to make use of, early opportunities; 3. It furnishes information to teachers, ministers, journalists, authors, physicians, legislators, all persons upon whose work depend the intellectual, moral, sanitary, and political welfare and advancement of the people; 4. It furnishes books and periodicals for the technical instruction and information of mechanics, artisans, manufacturers, engineers, and all others whose work requires technical knowledge—of all persons upon whom depends the industrial progress of the city; 5. It is of incalculable benefit to the city by affording to thousands the highest and purest entertainment, by substituting the reading-room for the bar-room, and thus lessening crime and disorder; 6. It makes the city a more desirable place of residence, and thus retains the best citizens and attracts others of the same character; 7. More than any other agency, it elevates the general standard of intelligence throughout the great body of the community, upon which its material prosperity, as well as its moral and political well-being must depend. Finally, the Public Library includes potentially all other means of social amelioration. A man who founds a hospital does a good act; yet the benefits of his beneficence reach comparatively few. An art museum is a very useful institution in a community; yet how limited is its influence compared with that of a Public Library! And above all, the hospital is only a hospital; it is a definite, a limited good; it is a finished structure, a marble shaft; it cannot reproduce itself. A library, on the other hand, is a living organism, having within itself the capacity of infinite growth and reproduction. It may found a dozen museums and hospitals, kindle the train of thought that produces beneficent inventions, and inspire to noble deeds of every kind, all the while imparting intelligence and inculcating industry, thrift, morality, public spirit, and all those qualities that constitute the wealth and well-being of a community."

## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

**Library of Congress.** List of the Benjamin Franklin papers in the Library of Congress. Compiled under the direction of Worthington Chauncey Ford, chief, division of manuscripts. 322 pp. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "  $\times$  7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Washington: Government Printing Office. 1905.

An addition to the valuable series of calendars being issued by the Library of Congress, which already includes the papers relating to Washington, Lincoln, Monroe, and John Paul Jones, and the Vernon-Wager manuscripts. The following note from the preface explains the method of compilation: "The division has issued two most elaborate calendars of material in its possession, that of the Washington Papers, 1901, and that of the John Paul Jones, 1903. The Jones calendar contained 883 entries, and occupied the labor of an expert two full years to complete, allowance being made for interruptions. The Washington list demanded nearly the same amount of time and labor. The cost of calendaring is thus excessive, and frequently would exceed the value of the collection treated. Nor has experience shown the advantage of such minute descriptions of documents, the entry in the calendar sometimes containing more words than the document itself. The investigator can never be satisfied with any summary of contents, but must refer to the original letter, and nothing short of a full publication can meet his needs. In place of a full calendar a partial one has here been made, in which only the leading names and subjects are noted. The names of the writer and of the person to whom written, the place and time of date and a brief reference to the matter of the paper—these are sufficient to serve as a general guide to the nature of the collection. The time saved is of importance, a few months sufficing for the preparation of such a partial calendar, and three or four collections can be made available within the same time as one collection formerly required." The arrangement of the calendar is chronological, and there is a very full name and subject index. There is no doubt that this calendar will greatly facilitate the work of the division, and the compiler, Mr. J. C. Fitzpatrick, is to be congratulated on his work.

Select list of books on railroads in foreign countries: government regulation. General, Continental Europe: international freight agreement, Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Russia. Compiled under the direction of Appleton Prentiss Clarke Griffin, chief bibliographer. 72 pp., 10"  $\times$  7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Washington: Government Printing Office. 1905.

One of the well-known Library of Congress bibliographies. This one is notable as being much more fully annotated than usual. There are author and subject indexes.

## CATALOGUES.

**Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Library.** Classified list of books in the library on literature, poetry, and the drama. Compiled by Kate Fearnside, Librarian. 68 pp., 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". 1905.

The fourth part of this excellent classified catalogue. Arranged according to the Dewey classification, with author and subject indexes. Annotations are confined to statements of contents. Comprises all the features we have noted on previous occasions.

## MAGAZINES.

**Bootle.** *Free Library, Museum, and Technical School Journal*, December, 1905. Contains the usual notes and lists of additions, and a short illustrated article on "The beginnings of the bookbinder's art." The title-page to volume IV. is included.

**Brooklyn.** *Bulletin*, December, 1905. Additions, and a list of "Books for the blind."

**Croydon.** *Reader's Index*, January, 1906. Mr. James D. Stewart contributes his usual review of the "Notable books of the year." There are the usual fully annotated lists of additions, and a list of "Periodicals for 1906." The title-page and index to volume VII. accompany this number.

**Darwen.** *Public Library Journal*, December, 1905. Lists of additions and several brief reading lists in connection with a series of Huntingdon lectures.

**Nottingham.** *Library Bulletin*, January, 1906. Notes and lists of additions. There are two portraits of members of the libraries committee.

**Peterborough.** *Bulletin*, November, 1905. General notes, an annotated list of additions, and a reading list on "Unemployment."

**Pratt Institute.** *Monthly Bulletin*, December, 1905. The number is given over to a "Christmas list," giving publishers and prices, designed to aid people in choosing books for Christmas presents.

**Ryerson Library.** Grand Rapids, *Bulletin*, December, 1905. Contains a number of very interesting notes on the work of the library—indicating considerable extension activity—and a list of additions.

**St. Louis.** *Monthly Bulletin*, January, 1906. Annotated list of additions, and a reading list on "Germany."

**Wandsworth.** *Quarterly Journal*, August, 1905. Brief author list of additions, and part of an author list and an indicator key to older stock. All entries are cut down as much as possible, and there are no annotations.

**Book-Prices Current:** a record of the prices at which books have been sold at auction, from October, 1904, to July, 1905, being the season 1904-1905. Vol. 19, pp. viii. + 598. Eliot Stock: London, 1905. 28s.

Mr. J. H. Slater brings out his annual guide to the book sales of the year with commendable promptitude. 5,439 lots are registered, and the two indexes are now incorporated in one at the end of the book, instead of, as in previous volumes, the subject index being in the front. The average price of the lots for the year works out at £2 17s. 2d., as against £2 9s. 3d. for the last season.

We regret to notice that Mr. Slater has not yet given in to the strong demand from many quarters for an index to the printers of early books. It is a comparatively small matter, and if Mr. Slater could find it in his heart to follow the lead of American Book Prices Current, and give the whole of the lots in one alphabet he would save so much space (we have counted over a thousand duplicate entries in this volume) that he would have plenty of room for this small addition.

There can be no doubt whatever that the value of the book could be considerably improved if more work was put into it. The mere reprinting of catalogues (and that with very considerable omissions) is not sufficient in these days of scientific bibliography. More accurate identification is required: in fact, we want more of Mr. Slater's pen and less of his blue pencil.

The first words of the preface are rather interesting: "This volume of B.P.C. is remarkable for the large number of scarce and valuable books reported in its pages." It may be said that it is also remarkable for the reduction in the total number of entries. Whereas in Vol. 18 for 1903-4 there were 6,276 entries, representing 41,639 lots, and in Vol. 17 for 1902-3 there were 6,083 entries, representing 44,462 lots, in this volume, we have only 5,439 entries, representing 42,447 lots.



### BY-THE-WAY NOTES.

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SEVERAL English libraries having been recipients of the two large volumes (25-in. by 11-in.) containing Mr. Bishop's "Studies in Jade," we may mention that the books are the bequest of the late Heber Reginald Bishop, a merchant prince of New York, who was born at Boston, U.S. in 1840. The volumes are entitled "Bishop Collection. Investigations and Studies in Jade. New York. Privately Printed. 1906." Only 100 copies have been issued and the type has been distributed. They form a catalogue of the splendid collection of Jade made by the late Mr. Bishop and left to the Metropolitan Museum, New York. This book has twenty plates hand-painted in water-colour by a Pekin artist; thirty-six etchings in copper by French artists; and ninety-six colour-lithographs printed in Boston. Scores of experts, moreover, have been engaged to write descriptions.

A DISTINCTLY novel proposition was made at a meeting of the Corporation of Preston on December 28th, in short, to use certain public houses as adjuncts to the Public Library by establishing reading rooms with a supply of books and periodicals on the licensed premises! The suggestion was not accepted.

THE following are extracts from an open letter which appeared above the signature "John Casaubon Research" in *The Bristol Times* of January 12th.

"Dear Mr. Carnegie,—You are very kind to spend your acquired millions in gifts for the building of libraries of stone and brick, and in the erection of village organs. Could you spare a million or two for the purchase of books to fill the shelves, especially rare ones and costly reference-books? . . . . A seemly building is a very good thing, but ratepayers cannot afford to fill the rows of new shelves, as they ought, with seemly books. Millionaires of ancient days often expended their wealth in books. Ptolemy gave 15 talents for manuscripts of Æschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. . . . Lucullus was a princely Roman, who spent much in a vast collection of books. The Medicis of Florence were patrons of literature. By imitating such, and many other more modern examples, you will earn the gratitude of several classes of people; overburdened ratepayers who love or do not love books; the numerous members of the research family, of which I am an unworthy member, who are often too poor to buy expensive books; and the booksellers who buy up and accumulate literary treasures, not knowing who shall gather them. . . .

A SPANISH library full of glorious historical associations is threatened with disaster, owing to niggardliness in high quarters. It is the Columbian library of Seville Cathedral, and is full of valuable ancient books and MSS., autographs of Columbus himself, more precious even than those contained in the Veragua collection of Madrid. The library was founded by Columbus's natural son Fernando, whom the explorer only acknowledged in the remorse of his broken days, but who was really more worthy his illustrious parentage than the more favoured Diego, who was his father's heir. Fernando was a fine geographer, but was also a collector of taste, and the library, which he left under the care of the Cathedral chapter, is the result of his life work. If, as is threatened, the Government subvention be stopped, there may be here a unique opportunity for the British Museum.—*The Globe*.



## SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION.

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A SYSTEM of exact Classification suitable for Public Libraries, technical and elementary schools, and other educational purposes, has long been a desideratum. Such a work, arranged in a series of divisions and related sub-divisions, and apparently providing places for every subject of moment, has been prepared by Mr. James Duff Brown, the Borough Librarian of Islington, and will be issued this season by The Library Supply Co. A novel series of tables is provided, enabling subjects to be sub-divided to any extent, and the scheme is so arranged that it can be applied to the largest library or the small collection of the private collector. It can be used for arranging specimens, classifying material on any topic, grouping of business papers, or any purpose or business in which classification is necessary. For English libraries, in which exact Subject Classification has been comparatively neglected, this book should prove of great service.

## DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE-ANNOTATION.

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The LIBRARY SUPPLY Co. have in the press, and will publish shortly, "A Manual of Descriptive Annotation," by Mr. ERNEST A. SAVAGE, Borough Librarian, Bromley, Kent. This manual will be in two parts. The first part will deal with the annotation of the literature of knowledge, and the literature of power, and with the annotation of juvenile books so far as the practice must be modified in the case of this class; relative description (that is to say, methods of linking together related books in the same class) reading courses, reference lists and articles are dealt with in a separate chapter. MR. ERNEST A. BAKER, Chief Librarian, Wallasey, has contributed a chapter on Evaluation, and a Historical note. This first part concludes with a full account of practical work followed on this side of the water and in America, a list of reference books for the annotator and a biography. The second part formulates rules for annotating under the following heads—author note, subject note, treatment note, editing note, relative note, and bibliographical note, whilst the rules especially applicable to certain classes of literature are summarized at the end. Some little attention has been paid to synthetic annotation, and other economies in note-making. The examples cited in illustration of the rules are very numerous, and, as they have been selected from a large number of annotated catalogues and lists, they give a good idea of the character of the work being done in this particular field.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE second monthly meeting of the present session was held at the London School of Economics, Clare Market, W.C., on Monday, December 11th, when Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme, Librarian, Patent Office Library, presented a paper on

#### "THE PRINCIPLES OF CATALOGUING."

Owing to the dense fog, which had been overhanging London all day, only about twelve members were present. Mr. Bernard Kettle was voted to the chair.

As the attendance was so small, Mr. Hulme only read a section of his paper. The part read was almost wholly controversial, and practically an explanation of the reasons which lead Mr. Hulme to retire from the Catalogue Rules Committee. The main contention of the paper was that in many important details of cataloguing—especially in regard to author headings—the committee were far too ready to accept the decisions of the A.L.A. Catalogue Rules Committee in order to secure the proposed international code.

The debate was taken part in by Messrs. Bond, Kettle, Savage, Gill, and other members; but, owing partly to the absence of the members of the Rules Committee, and partly to the fact that Mr. Hulme did not lay all his arguments before the meeting, it was not very animated. After passing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hulme, the meeting broke up at an early hour.

The third monthly meeting was held at the National Art Library, South Kensington, on Monday, January 15th, 1906, when Mr. G. H. Palmer, the keeper, received the members and visitors, and entertained them in the elaborately decorated refreshment-rooms of the museum. Afterwards the party adjourned to the large lecture-room, where Mr. George Potter was elected chairman. Mr. Palmer then gave an interesting account of the origin, progress and vicissitudes of the National Art Library, and a brief discussion followed, chiefly on the point raised by Mr. Jast, as to the possibility of the department lending art books to municipal libraries. Afterwards the library was inspected, and the members were shown a very large and fine selection of art books, works on decoration, illuminated MSS., and had explained to them various points connected with the cataloguing and shelf arrangement. The meeting was an entire success, and was attended by about forty members and visitors.

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#### NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Bradford, on 20th December last, by invitation of the Public Free Libraries Committee. Among those present were the President (Mr. Butler Wood), Messrs. T. W. Hand (Leeds), A. H. Furnish (York), H. E. Johnston (Gateshead, Hon. Secretary), H. Townend (Bury), M. E. Hartley and G. Hardy (Bradford), E. Green, H. H. Brook, and F. W. Coe (Halifax), B. R. Hill, W. H. Gibson, I. Briggs, C. J. Zanetti, and W. E. Hurford (Newcastle-on-Tyne), W. Wilson and T. Hedley (Gateshead), C. Deas (Sunderland.) R. McLeannan, A. Thackray, K. Ineson, G. Wilkinson, W. Proctor, D. Sharpouse, J. W. Walker and J. Daykin (Leeds), W. Spencer, (Bingley), R. S. Crossley (Keighley) and others.

Before the commencement of the business meeting the members visited the Public Free Library and viewed the extensive alterations which had recently been made to the building. On assembling at the Town Hall they were received by the Mayor (Mr. W. A. Whitehead) and Alderman J. S. Toothill (Chairman of the Public Free Libraries Committee).

In welcoming the members, His Worship referred to the impending visit of the Library Association to Bradford next year, and expressed the hope that he would have the pleasure of meeting them again on that occasion. The business meeting followed, when the Secretary reported that the Council had accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. A. Hair as Hon. Treasurer, and tendered to him the cordial thanks of the Association for his services during the past two-and-a-half years.



They had elected as Hon. Treasurer Mr. J. Walton, Sub-Librarian, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries. A letter had been received from the Director of Technical Education at Carlisle on behalf of the Public Library and Museum Committee inviting the Association to hold its next quarterly meeting in that city, which the Council had cordially accepted. The report was adopted. The President referred to the recent appeal made by the Association to the various library authorities of the Northern Counties to pay the fees of such members of their staffs who desired to join the Correspondence Classes of the Library Association, and urged upon assistants the importance of taking advantage of such classes.

Mr. T. W. Hand, City Librarian of Leeds, read a paper upon "The Public Library of the Future" in the course of which he laid down many useful principles. Librarians, he said, ought to be men who read, which perhaps was not always, or had not always been, the case. He contended that England was a long way behind America as regarded the educational work of libraries. There was no other educational factor in this country labouring under the disadvantages which pressed upon Public Libraries, as was instanced by the fact that only one penny in the pound could be levied for libraries in the majority of towns.

Mr. Hand dealt at considerable length with the question of the provision of suitable reading matter for young people, and with the question of provision for that class of readers. He urged that the school must be the foundation of library work, and that it ought to be their aim to continue popular education beyond the school age. It was necessary that libraries and librarians should be deeply interested in the social questions and the social life of the times, and ought to give special attention to the subject by making comprehensive collections of books, pamphlets, reports, &c., relating to the structure and the work of the social organizations of the town. Such collections might be an invaluable contribution to the history of the peaceful progress of humanity.

Mr. H. H. Brook (Sub-Librarian of Halifax) contributed a paper on "Reader's Aids" in which, after pointing out the difficulty which the uninstructed reader often experienced in arriving at the choice of the book which was necessary for his purposes, he suggested a number of classified lists which might be of assistance, and laid emphasis on the necessity that the librarian should be approachable and ready to be consulted on such questions. Mr. Brook touched on the abnormal demand for new novels at the present day, and said that the knowledge of this fact ought to stimulate librarians to make an effort to stay the mad rush for new works of fiction and to make popular the works of classical authors.

Mr. Harry Townend (Librarian and Curator of the Public Library and Art Gallery, Bury) followed with a bold and original paper on the subject of "Professional Etiquette," in the course of which he criticised the practice of some managing committees of libraries of disregarding the value, and indeed absolute necessity of practical training in library

work when appointing men to the highest offices of a library. He also dealt in a racy way with the etiquette of librarians in their dealings with one another and with the public. An interesting discussion on the three papers ensued.

Subsequently the company partook of tea at the invitation of the Mayor, and then paid a visit to the Cartwright Memorial Hall where the President acted as cicerone. A very enjoyable social evening was afterwards spent at the Liberal Club presided over by Alderman Toothill, and an attractive programme of music rendered.

The proceedings terminated with hearty votes of thanks to the Mayor, Alderman Toothill, and Mr. Butler Wood for their hospitality.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—I am a regular reader and, with some limitations, an admirer of the "Library World;" hence this letter. One such article (and there have been others) as tends to limit my admiration for your bright periodical appears in your last number, and is entitled "The Progress of Open Access." I don't know who the anonymous writer is, but though I am not an ardent supporter of open access I count myself a sounder advocate of its merits than he, for that article is so bolstered up with weak statements, and its general tenor such, that it cannot possibly influence any but those who are ignorant on the matter.

That I am not strongly opposed to the system of open access (incidentally I am opposed, and strongly, to some of the methods of advocating it) may be concluded from what I have written elsewhere (particularly in a paper for the St. Louis International Congress), and I have sufficient confidence in it to feel aggrieved at seeing the system supported in the feeble manner of the article by "I. G. B."

Open access is not so poor a thing, surely as to need so doubtful a "list of some of the towns which have adopted the open access in their lending libraries" as is given in this article. Doubtful the list is, because some of the places named (including the largest—Cardiff and Lambeth) are claimed by advocates of the indicator with very much greater justice, for at these places open access is quite a baby whilst the indicator is a full-grown man, and of considerable proportions too! It is somewhat feeble, also, to claim places (one such at least is in the list) as having "open access in their lending libraries" when they have, as yet, no libraries at all! Places are in the list, also, which have adopted open access for portions of the lending departments only. The weakest point of all, though—weakest because whilst it is meant to delude it could hardly be successful in that direction with a child—is, that whilst giving a list containing such doubtful claimants, it is also said that the list is "not by any means complete"! This, too, after including six or seven quite small places, one with a less population than 5,000.

As an adequate answer to that list, I should like to see a list of towns, with populations, which have adopted the indicator! The "flowing tide" of Liberalism would be almost as a stagnant pool in comparison with the roaring torrent of indicator as against open access, even though the advocates of the latter were generously allowed to poll all such doubtful cases as I have indicated; and indeed were they to make the list "by *all* means complete" it would still be poor in comparison with the indicator lists.

Whilst writing of this subject it is worth pointing out that Councillor Day, in his pamphlet on which the remarks of your contributor are based, oversteps

the mark in a similar way to "I. G. B." Councillor Day claims Southwark and Islington (by giving the populations of these places) as having fully adopted open access. In neither case can it be said that this is so. Also it is worth recording that Councillor Day's efforts did not secure the adoption of open access by the Norwich Town Council, though it was for the edification of this particular council that the pamphlet was specially prepared (unless, of course, there were some ulterior motive). Two Norwich councillors only voted for open access.

I am not a strong advocate of either the open access or the indicator method of issue, but I try to take (and have no conscious ground for doing otherwise) a quite impartial view of the matter, and it is mainly because I think the article in your last number one-sided and unfair that I feel impelled to reply to it.

I hope, Mr. Editor, that you will in future exclude from your pages all such unduly biased articles as "I. G. B.'s," and when you learn to do this the *Library World* will be an excellent and worthy periodical; till then the admiration of many of us for it as a professional organ must remain considerably limited.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY BOND,

*Borough Librarian, Woolwich.*

27th January, 1906.

[We have printed Mr. Bond's letter exactly as he wrote it, lest, if we improved its temper and style, he should accuse us of having some "ulterior motive"—a bogey which seems to pursue others besides Mr. Bond. No doubt the writer of the article mentioned by Mr. Bond will reply to the criticisms levelled against him if he thinks proper. With his figures and claims we have no concern, but with Mr. Bond's insinuations against the conduct of this magazine we have strong ground for complaint. For years past it has been the constant policy of the *Library World* to admit contributions on every aspect of library work, and as regards the question of open shelves, closed libraries, and other controversial topics, we have been absolutely impartial in presenting such views. If there has been more matter in our pages on open access than on other questions of policy, it has been owing to the fact that it is a comparatively fresh topic, and that its opponents have not troubled to send contributions though invited to do so. We again heartily invite contributions on behalf of indicators, card charging, and other methods of administration which dispense with open shelves, or articles directed against the policy of open access. A stipulation we must make is that contributions should be devoid of personalities. The only article rejected by us was one, in opposition to open access, which was so full of personal abuse that it would have offended readers, and probably involved us in a libel suit. The time is ripe for a sane discussion on the whole policy of indicators, open access, and other kindred topics, and we shall be very pleased to publish reasonably short articles on any view of the matter.—ED.]



## EDITORIAL.

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## THE FICTION BOGEY AGAIN.

EVERY now and again, one of the solemn monthly or quarterly magazines, by way of enlivening its pages, inserts a terrific onslaught on municipal libraries, in which the judgment of heaven is called down upon the fiction reader, and the library authorities are condemned as a set of ignorant and inefficient office-holders, who pander to a depraved public taste. The last assailant of this sort whom we had the pleasure of setting right was Mr. J. Churton Collins, who used the *Nineteenth Century and After*, as the medium for conveying his accusations. Now comes Mr. W. H. Harwood, who fills six-and-a-half pages of the *Westminster Review* for February, 1906, with a quantum of twaddle about libraries, which differs from most recent articles of the same sort only in its dulness. In his use of this journalistic *cliché*, Mr. Harwood displays the customary ignorance of the *Public Libraries Acts*, by styling his paper "*Free Libraries and Fiction*," and by his failure to prove even one of his statements by reference to a single concrete fact. Briefly, Mr. Harwood's position is this:—

1. The management of Public Libraries is in the hands of ignorant and unsuitable councillors, who are nominated for party or other reasons rather than for their knowledge of literature.
2. They stock the libraries with rubbishy novels to the extent of "one-half, perhaps, or even a larger proportion," and only buy cheap reprints, the sweepings of the local bookseller's shop, or the trash which drifts in by way of donation, to represent all the other classes of literature.

His other arguments, based upon dirt and disinfection, the art of skimming, the decline of bookselling, the encouragement given by Public Libraries in fostering a taste for frivolous literature to the exclusion of more educational kinds, need not be examined, because they have very little to do with Mr. Harwood's main conclusion that Public Libraries waste an enormous amount of time and money because of the vast number of inferior novels which they circulate. He does not say on what figures his chief arguments are based, nor from what libraries they are drawn, nor does he in any way indicate his own qualifications for sitting in judgment on a class of public institution which cannot be judged from statistics published in annual reports,

Volume VIII. No. 93. March, 1906.

To enlighten him a little as to the actual state of affairs, we may state that, so far from the fiction stock of most municipal libraries being 50 or 60 per cent, the average over the whole country, including the small towns, at which he chiefly rails, is only 23 per cent. The percentage of Lending Stock is 55, and of Reference Stock 45. Applied to a library of 10,000 volumes, as has been done by Mr. Jas. Duff Brown in his *Annotated Syllabus*, this gives a total of 1,355 novels in a library of the size indicated. From the same source we learn that the average annual issues of Fiction and Non-Fiction in British libraries is just exactly 50 per cent in each case, and in this calculation no count is made of the enormous unrecorded work of a useful consultative kind which goes on in open-shelf reference libraries, magazine reading rooms, and in departments devoted to technical periodicals, annuals, directories, time-tables, &c., in every part of the country. It is not too much to say of this silent, unrecorded and thoroughly educational work, that it equals in volume and value the whole of the other work put together. Then the newsroom department has to be reckoned with in a majority of cases, and also the useful and effective work accomplished in connection with children's reading rooms, lecture courses, book exhibitions and other activities which are never shown upon the statistical tables of mere lending library issues on which Mr. Harwood apparently relies. There may be a few starved little libraries here and there whose poverty leads to the purchase of cheap novels because expensive books in art and science cannot be afforded, but that is a feeble reason for such wholesale and strong condemnation of institutions and their managers which Mr. Harwood himself admits "give us more for our money than the managers of any other rate-supported department." The portion of Mr. Harwood's article reflecting upon the composition of library committees is also a gross exaggeration. Every Scottish library committee, save in the case of Glasgow, is bound by Act of Parliament to be constituted of one half councillors and one half non-councillors, who are in most cases men selected for their learning and business capacity. In England and Wales and Ireland power is given in the Public Libraries Acts for the appointment of capable outside members, who are not councillors, and in hundreds of cases this has been done in all parts of the country and it would be easy to name distinguished persons who act on Public Library committees whose literary and scientific eminence would probably astonish Mr. Harwood in his present state of ignorance. Again, the business capacity of even the much-contemned councillor is often of immense value in financial matters, and in questions affecting buildings, local laws, and practical administrative work generally. A committee of bookworms or book experts is a combination from which the average Librarian will implore the gods and the common-sense of the local authority to save him!

But it is really not worth time and space to dwell further on Mr. Harwood's denunciation of *free* libraries. The only merit it has may perhaps lie in its exaggerated representation of affairs in some Little Pedlington which owns him as a ratepayer. He wobbles about so

much in his article, saying in one breath that matters are very bad and then qualifying this by admitting in another that after all they might be worse, that we can only regard him as one who selected his topic at random, and poured out the usual and obvious invectives with an uneasy consciousness of his own ignorance and limpness.



## OBITUARY.

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### DEATHS OF MR. FRANK CAMPBELL AND MR. J. P. EDMOND.

WE announce with deepest regret, the deaths of two distinguished bibliographers and librarians, which occurred somewhat unexpectedly in January of the present year. The sympathy of every reader of this magazine will go forth to the families of Messrs. Campbell and Edmond, and every librarian will feel that the science of bibliography has lost two exponents who could ill be spared.

#### FRANK CAMPBELL.

Mr. Francis F. B. Campbell, afterwards the Rev. F. F. B. Campbell, was descended from an old Scots family, and was at one time a familiar figure in connection with the Library Association, and was widely known by his work at the British Museum, of which library he was for a time an officer. He specialized in state papers and official literature generally, and while at the Museum, arranged and catalogued the Indian state papers, a work of enormous labour and difficulty. Some of his experiences are contained in bibliographical and other papers which he contributed to the Library Association, and out of his labours grew the works with which his name will hereafter be associated:—

*An Index-Catalogue of Bibliographical works relating to India.*  
*The Theory of national and international Bibliography.* 1896.  
*India: a study in Bibliography.* 1899.

About ten or eleven years ago Mr. Campbell left the British Museum and proceeded to India, where he took holy orders, and on his return to this country he occupied a position among the clergy of Westminster Abbey. In private life Mr. Campbell was an exceedingly amiable and modest man, who rarely intruded his opinions on anyone, yet who, nevertheless, could hold his own on most professional subjects. He was a good musician, and among his gifts was the ability to play pianoforte accompaniments deftly and well. His loss at a comparatively early age will be deeply deplored by all his old colleagues and friends.

## JOHN PHILIP EDMOND.

The death of Mr. Edmond will be keenly felt by all who knew him, especially as he attended the Cambridge meeting of the Library Association last August, where he seemed in perfect health, and spoke hopefully of his work at the Signet Library. He was a typical Scot, born at Aberdeen in 1850, and there he obtained a good practical grounding in the book arts generally, but particularly bookbinding, printing, and bookselling. He came to London in 1889 and became an assistant librarian in Sion College, and representative of various Scottish printing firms. In 1891 he became librarian to the Earl of Crawford at Haigh Hall, Wigan, and in 1904 he succeeded the late Mr. T. G. Law as librarian of the Signet Library, Edinburgh. These are the brief chronicles of his record as a librarian, and they give but little indication of the many activities in which he engaged in the field of bibliographical research and record. From an early age he had been a keen student of books and bibliography. One of the first results of this was his model typographical history entitled, *The Aberdeen Printers, 1620-1736*, 1882, to which he afterwards added *Last Notes*, in 1888. He wrote in collaboration with Dr. R. Dickson, *The Annals of Scottish Printing 1507 to the 17th century*, 1890, which is the standard work on the subject. His other published works, were chiefly papers on various subjects contributed to the proceedings of the Library Association and Bibliographical Society, and various catalogues of the valuable collections housed at Haigh Hall. He was a profound scholar, and a thorough expert in many out-of-the-way departments of bibliography, while his quiet, kindly, and unassuming manner endeared him to everyone with whom he associated. He was ever ready to assist any young librarian out of his immense stores of bibliographical knowledge, and, unlike many learned librarians and bibliographers attached to colleges and private libraries, had the greatest sympathy with the municipal library movement. He was an ideal custodian of such a library as the Signet at Edinburgh, and his short-lived occupancy of the post will be deeply felt by the Society of Writers to the Signet, who had in Mr. Edmond an officer who would doubtless have thoroughly overhauled and immensely improved the library. We express our deepest sympathy with Mr. Edmond's family and friends, and regret extremely that such a sterling, able, and prominent gentleman and librarian, should have been lost to the profession in such an unexpected and untimely way.



## THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE.

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THE change which restores to this old favourite much of its ancient flavour, will be welcome to many who have noted that the issues of late years have departed far from the traditional lines of Sylvanus Urban.

If Mr. A. H. Bullen maintains its character at the standard of the February number, the first issue under the new regime, *The Gentleman's Magazine* will become indispensable to librarians and lovers of literature.

If we find fault, it is that the editor covers too wide a field; the "Urban" portion of his pseudonym may well excuse future omission of "Garden Notes," and the article which occupies five pages of "Days' Doings" seems apropos of nothing in particular, though in line with the modern fancy for analysis of a person's mind and occupations. We commend the "Retrospective Reviews" to the attention of all library assistants, and, for that matter, of all librarians, for there is in the literature of long ago a wide range of half-forgotten subjects, deserving salvation from total oblivion. "The Pepysian Treasures" is a worthy first instalment, concerning which we should have much more to say were not space limited; we must be content to note that though experience obliges us to agree with the writer respecting the quiet charm of the Cambridge shrine which holds the *Bibliotheca Pepysiana*, we are not sure that "the sombre depths of the British Museum," with the muffled roar of London, are not equally conducive to study—perhaps it depends on temperament, for some of us are most alone with our subject when in a crowd.

Those who have not penetrated the depths of the building which forms the further side of Magdalene College may be interested to know that the library bequeathed by Pepys occupies a room nearly filled with his oaken presses; the books, printed and MSS., arranged on a system which would set a modern librarian's teeth on edge, the sole guide being the size of the volume, in some cases tall books, with their labels high up, at the back of the shelf, small books ranged in front thereof, so that to get the former the latter must be removed! Classification by subject is utterly unknown, size is the only consideration, and when a volume was too short to range prettily, it was in a few instances raised by a strip of wood.

Reminiscences of book-hunting in Magdalene have carried us beyond our intention, which was briefly to record the renaissance of *The Gentleman's Magazine*, and to wish it as many years of life as have passed since Edward Cave started its publication in 1731.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THERE is a most perfect example of the way they do things in the States in the January number of *Public Libraries*. They have been making things hum at the Webster Branch of the New York Public Library, and Mr. Edwin W. Gaillard tells us how it has been done in an article entitled "One way to popularize the library." The plan has been to gather all books in the branch on a given subject without regard to the natural order of library classification. For example, a collection which relates to the Indians of North America includes books on fiction, history, folk-lore, religion, architecture, and many other topics. About 2,000 volumes have been gathered into these collections, and among the subjects thus presented are "Books most men like; detective stories; Mark Twain; Shakespeare; sea; the Far East; fairy tales; books, boys, books." This last title smacks of the naphtha flare and the big drum. "Walk right up here! Books! boys, books!" However, here is the main point: "These collections are made prominent, each one by itself in some nook or corner, in a special little bookcase, on a mantelpiece, or in some instances on a single shelf. Each collection has for itself some pronounced way of making it conspicuous. A large aquarium with running water stands beside the books on fish and fishing; mounted birds are placed behind glass on shelves near the books about birds, and changed; astronomical books are close to a small telescope, a tellurian, a planetary, and an oil painting of an eclipse; physiological models and charts call attention to books about the human body; an attractive architectural cast supports a sign which reads: In appreciation of the beautiful in painting, architecture, and sculpture; butterflies and a type collection of insects are above the books about insects; the sea collection is surrounded with things nautical—ship lanterns, an anchor, sou'wester, flags, shells, &c.; a miniature skeleton performs a dance of death for the edification of the ghost stories; national flags of Japan, Russia, China, and Corea fly over books in one collection." Really, now, isn't this great? Doesn't it open your eyes to possibilities hitherto undreamed of? Think of a lending library tastefully festooned with antique sou'westers, skeletons, anchors, oil paintings, dead butterflies and living fish! Why not extend the idea a little and have a free quick-lunch counter near the cookery books, a sage dispensing free advice near the legal collection, and something eminently squeezable near the books on lovely woman? After this, a criticism of the humble bulletin from the same article seems to recall an ancient saw about a pot and a kettle: "When the members of a staff assemble around a miscellaneous aggregation of small prints clipped from a popular daily or weekly paper which an apprentice has assembled on a piece of gray cardboard and added a few book titles in a small cramped hand, each giving vent to gasps of awe and admiration, then it is high time to

obtain a new staff." Now let us get back to earth. Miss Gratia Countryman contributes a gossip about the library as a social centre, and Dr. R. G. Thwaites a consideration of the sphere of the library. There is a note of Mr. Dewey on "Library pictures," in which is advocated the establishment in libraries of circulating collections of pictures illustrating certain subjects or literary masterpieces. Miss Kate Louise Roberts writes an interesting account of "Library training in the library" at Newark, and supplies brief outlines of courses of lectures on reference work and cataloguing. The first part of the promised course of reading in professional literature is given in this number.

The February *Library Assistant* contains an article by Mr. J. D. Young on "Newsrooms: their requirements and service." He tries to make out a case in favour of the department, and considers that one of the great objections would be removed if only penny papers were taken. "Next should be added a few good provincial dailies, and one or two respectable French, German, and perhaps also American weeklies or bi-weeklies." He also advocates a good selection of artistic papers, and monthly and quarterly reviews, but this surely is the magazine room rather than the newsroom. The paper forms a very good addition to non-controversial newsroom literature. There is a short paper from Mr. C. F. Newcombe on "Library lectures and extension work." Here is his attitude: "The lecturer who can, and I maintain, does help us in our work as librarians is the man who gives out his knowledge in such a way as to open the eyes of our readers, and make them see how much pleasure there is to be got out of some forms of reading or study, if approached in the spirit of enthusiasm and interest in which the lecturer has approached it. You all know that the readers with whom as assistants you daily come into contact are composed of the educated, and half educated, the quarter educated, and the reader of comparatively no education at all. Throw your net as wide as possible, and remember that among your readers you will always find those who care not only to listen to lectures, but who see at once the value of following out a course of reading suggested by a sympathetic lecturer." Mr. Newcombe believes in the small "Chamber" lecture rather than the more popular one to large audiences.

A very comprehensive account of "Library work for the blind" is contributed by Mr. E. E. Allen to the January *Library Journal*. After briefly sketching the history of the movement and describing the available literature, he says: "In general library work for the blind, in order that it may be successfully conducted, the conditions for circulation must be made favourable. The first essential condition is again attractive books in variety, printed in the types which the adult wish and as they prefer them to be embossed; the second, the diffusion of the information that these books may be borrowed without expense to the borrower; the third, a recognition of the fact by the library authorities that most of the books will have to be sent to the readers; and the fourth, that the work will of necessity employ visiting teachers." We think, by the way, that a large proportion of the want of success in

library work for the blind in England has resulted from the fact that the third point noted here has not been realized. A question which has aroused considerable interest among those who are given to looking ahead is debated by Mr. K. H. Whitten under the title of "Special libraries." Shall a large library be arranged in one sequence according to one of the recognized systematic classification schemes, or shall it be split up into a number of special libraries supplemented by a central general collection? The special collection is rapidly gaining favour in America, and a number of the large libraries have series of rooms devoted to these collections. Mr. Whitten is a strong advocate of the special library, and as the question only affects large libraries and his arguments are difficult to summarize in the space available, those interested are referred to his paper. Miss A. B. Kroeger supplies a third annual supplement to her "Guide to reference books," and there is an interesting symposium on methods of book buying.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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*[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]*

**Bath.**—A postcard poll, taken to ascertain if the ratepayers of Bath were in favour of accepting Dr. Carnegie's offer of £13,000 for a Public Library, has just been made known, the result being 2,109 for, and 4,761 against.

**Bideford.**—The new Public Library, constructed as part of the municipal buildings, was opened by Mr. C. Strachan Carnegie on February 7th. The group of buildings, which is situated by the riverside, is a valuable acquisition to the town, Mr. A. J. Dunne, of Birmingham, having adopted the Tudor style of architecture, providing an attractive appearance outside and useful roomy halls and chambers within.

**Blackpool.**—The establishment of branch libraries (under the control of the Public Library) in all the elementary schools in the borough has been attended with remarkable success. The books issued each month average 2,000 of an entertaining and instructive character.

**Bradford.**—On January 21st, the sixteenth branch of the Public Library was opened at East Bowling, a thickly populated district of Bradford.

**Brierley Hill.**—Mr. J. H. Dudley, the Librarian, reported to the Public Library Committee, on February 6th, that all arrangements for the juvenile department of the library were ready for work. The conditions lay down that borrowers must reside within the urban district,

and must not be under eleven years of age ; on attaining the age of sixteen they will be eligible to the full use of the senior lending and reference libraries.

**Carlisle.**—Mr. J. P. Hinds has recently given a very interesting lecture on the "Jackson Library" now included in the Public Library. Mr. Jackson, who died in 1890, was an enthusiastic collector of all literary matter in any way relating to the district.

**Carlton, Notts.**—The new Public Library was opened by Mr. J. E. Ellis on February 10th. The people of Carlton are to be congratulated on a useful institution housed in an attractive building.

**Chelmsford.**—February 3rd witnessed the opening of the Public Library by Lady Rayleigh. The borough has good reason to be proud of its new institution, associated as it is with a school of art and a museum. Alderman Chancellor has been the prime mover in the undertaking, and he and Mr. Wykeham Chancellor generously gave their services as architects of the building. Dr. Carnegie contributed £2,500, the Essex County Council £1,000, and other friends about £500.

**Crompton** (near Rochdale).—Architects and others who are interested in plans and elevations of Public Libraries, will find an article in *The Building News*, February 23rd, giving descriptions of various designs submitted to the competition which resulted in the selection of Mr. Jesse Horsfield's plans.

**Douglas, Isle of Man.**—The Public Library has received a rich present from the Rev. T. Talbot, who has given the whole of his library for the use of the public. There are some 2,500 volumes and 1,500 pamphlets and magazines ; over 250 printed and manuscript books relate to the Isle of Man, and there are many valuable books dealing with antiquities and historical, religious, and literary subjects.

**Downpatrick.**—A Public Library will shortly be erected, Dr. Carnegie having promised to give £2,000.

**Exeter.**—Mr. H. Tapley Soper hopes that funds will enable his committee to develop the scheme for a music library, the idea being happily received, but at present want of cash stops the progress of the movement. The Public Library card catalogue, carried out on very full and complete lines, is well advanced.

**Gateshead.**—The Public Library Committee have decided that Gateshead shall join the ranks of those towns wherein all betting news is blotted out of newspapers provided for the library.

**Glasgow.**—The Library Committee, having obtained statistical information from towns adopting Sunday opening, have decided to advise the Corporation to take no action in that direction at present.

**Glasgow : Mitchell Library.**—The *Building News*, February 23rd, devotes several pages to Mr. W. B. Whittie's design—the one selected out of seventy-six plans sent in competition.

**Gravesend.**—The local press speak with much praise of Mr. A. J. Philip's catalogue of the contents of the Public Library, the arrangement being suited to the convenience of the public. Mr. Thorold Bennett designed and presented the artistic title-page.

**Halifax.**—The Public Libraries Committee have decided to adopt the open access system for the lending department (10,000 vols.) of the Akroyd Park Branch Library, and have accepted the plan of the Librarian, Mr. E. Green, who is installing the new system.

**Harrogate.**—The new Public Library was opened on January 24th, by the Bishop of Bath and Wells. The Mayor said that in 1887, when the first library was opened, they had 2,100 books; now they had 13,152, while in the interim there had been issued nearly two million volumes. The old building becoming too small, application was made to Dr. Carnegie for financial assistance, and he responded with a cheque for £7,500. At the close of the ceremony, Mr. G. W. Byers, the Librarian, on behalf of the members of the Library Committee, presented Ald. Ward, the chairman, with a fine copy of Fletcher's "Picturesque History of Yorkshire." Mr. T. Hare, the architect, is to be congratulated on the substantial, yet graceful, appearance of the library building, which is in keeping with the artistic architectural character of Victoria Avenue.

**Hobart, Tasmania.**—The new Public Library buildings, designed by Messrs. Walker & Salier, of Hobart, are rapidly nearing completion. The accommodation will include a newspaper-room 64-ft. by 25-ft., and a magazine-room 48-ft. by 25-ft., on the ground level, with a lending department and reference library on the upper floor. The latter is a room of noble proportions (70-ft. by 33-ft.), and is lighted by means of a lantern roof.

**Hobart, Tasmania.**—Mr. J. K. Reid, the Parliament Librarian, has issued a report for the past year which, though satisfactory in many ways, laments the want of sufficient space for the growing collection of books. The Ministry is pressed to provide the necessary funds, and it is estimated that under £600 will be required.

**Horbury, Yorks.**—The Public Library, towards the cost of which Dr. Carnegie contributed £2,000, was opened on February 14th, the ceremony being performed by Mr. Arthur Horsfield, chairman of the Council.

**Hull.**—Mr. Lawton recently reported that the issue of books from the Public Libraries was larger in number during the month than at any other period since the libraries were opened.

**Leeds.**—Mr. T. W. Hand, the Librarian, has noted a remarkable increase in the number of boys and girls taking advantage of the opportunities for reading offered by the Public Library and its branches.

**Lincoln.**—The annual lecture in connection with the Public Library was delivered on February 23rd, when Mr. George Clausen, A.R.A., R.W.S., lectured on "The Art of G. F. Watts, O.M., R.A."

**London: Bermondsey.**—On January 22nd, Alderman Bevington, chairman of the Libraries Committee, presided at the opening of the Public Library in Tooley Street. Formerly the premises were known as the St. John's Girls' School. The buildings were purchased for £2,500, and the alterations cost £2,000.

**London: British Museum.**—A system of pneumatic tubes is being installed, which it is hoped will facilitate the delivery of books to readers. Although the tubes will serve only to distribute the tickets for books, and not to convey the books themselves, considerable advantage is anticipated from the system.

**London: Stoke Newington.**—We are glad to learn that the Public Library is to be enriched by about 6,000 volumes, with a collection of prints, pictures, autographs, and MSS., the bequest of Mr. E. J. Sage, the recently deceased well-known antiquary and collector.

**London: Wandsworth.**—So many new books are being added to the Newnes Public Library at Putney that Mr. Bradley, the Librarian, has found it necessary to issue a quarterly classified list, the first of which appeared recently, and is sold at the modest sum of one penny. Over 700 volumes are contained in the new catalogue.

**London: Whitehall.**—The following extract from the *Daily Mail* embodies an important proposal:—

“Colonel Leetham, secretary of the Royal United Service Institution, suggests that the Government should make the institution a sort of military Mudie's, giving them authority to set up and maintain garrison libraries, where the latest books needful to the soldier of all ranks who takes a keen interest in his profession should be found.

“Any special work required could also be sent down, on application, from the excellent collection in the institution's building in Whitehall. In this way all the existing difficulties of providing adequate regimental libraries would disappear.”

**Loughborough.**—The *Building News* of February 16th contained a view of the attractive building in which the Public Library is established. The building was erected at a cost of £5,000, defrayed by Dr. Carnegie. It contains a reading-room, reference library, lending department, with a patent library in a balcony over, librarian's office, store and staff-rooms, etc. There is also a residence for the librarian. The lending library accommodates 14,000 and the reference-room 3,000 volumes. The design has been carried out under the supervision of Messrs. Barrowcliff & Allcock, architects, of Loughborough.

**Maidstone.**—Mr. J. H. Allchin has had to appear as a witness against two men charged with mutilating papers in the Public Library. We are glad to see that the magistrates inflicted fines in both cases.

**Morley.**—The Public Library, now in course of erection, is to have the benefit of an anonymous gift of £500 towards the purchase of books.

**Norwich.**—The Public Library is happy indeed in Mr. Walter Rye's munificence, for that well-known lover of things pertaining to the antiquities of Norfolk, is conditionally giving 7,000 prints, sketches, and photographs to the library for amalgamation with its present collection, and a splendid collection of MSS., books, etc., to be housed in the Castle.

**Pontyates, Llanelly.**—Sir Arthur Stepney has sent a large and good selection of books to form the nucleus of a Public Library. It is at present housed in a homely little building, but no doubt Pontyates will some day possess a structure properly arranged for a library.

**Richmond, Surrey.**—Mr. A. A. Barkas, the Librarian, reports that the new reference department of the Public Library cannot be opened till about the end of this month. Councillor Hilditch proposes to present a tablet to occupy a recess in the new room, on which to record a brief summary of the library movement in Richmond from 1855 to the present year.

**Stirling.**—Mr. W. B. M'Ewan, the Librarian, reports a gratifying increase in the number of readers using the reference-room of the Public Library during the year ending on the 7th of last month. Valuable additions to the collection are reported, and an effort is being made to secure local books, engravings, maps, etc.

**Yancouver.**—The Public Library report indicates that Mr. Edward Machin, the Librarian, has had a busy time during the past year. It is interesting to note that in this far-away city the same experiment that has worked well at home has been tried, with a view to reduction of the proportion of fiction issue, viz., the granting of special tickets allowing readers to have two books at a time, one being other than a novel. There are now over 11,000 books in the library, many being of a technical character, and the number of visitors shows the pronounced appreciation of the reference department.

**Walthamstow.**—Mr. G. W. Atkinson is to be congratulated on the continued and increasing popularity of the Public Library under his care. It is estimated that some 2,000 readers enter the library each day.

**Wolverhampton.**—The old Wolverhampton Library, established in 1794, and recently suffering financially to an extent which made the more pessimistic members fear its days were ended, has revived, and bids fair to continue its useful functions.

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**Mr. W. J. Crooks** has been selected as Librarian of the Public Library, Larne.

**Mr. J. Lindsay Hilson**, of Jedburgh Library, has received the appointment of Librarian to Kelso's new Public Library, now approaching completion.

**Mr. Henry D. Roberts**, who has been Chief Librarian of St. Saviour's Public Library since its foundation, but has been retired owing to the amalgamation of St. Saviours', Christchurch and St. George's with Newington, was the recipient of a well deserved testimonial on February 7th.

A largely attended meeting was held on the occasion of the presentation (which consisted of a handsome grandfather's clock and a silver cigarette case), when the Right Hon. R. K. Causton spoke highly of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Roberts during the 11½ years he had zealously devoted to the interests of the library. In a feeling speech Mr. Roberts acknowledged the gift, adding that,

"... under the new order of things, somebody had to go; and, though it meant to him a temporary submersion, he had managed to quickly swim again on the surface. He should always feel an affection for Southwark, for there he had commenced his official career, there he married his wife, there their child was born, and there many other things had happened which would be enduring memories with him through life."

Mr. B. M. Headicar, who is now Librarian, stated that 81 persons had subscribed to the presentation fund.

**Mr. James C. Scott**, the Assistant Librarian at Stockport, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the new Carnegie Library at West-houghton.

**Mr. Wm. Graham Waugh**, who has been Assistant Librarian for the past ten years in the Edinburgh Public Library, has just been appointed Librarian of the Public Library at Stirling.

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We have to apologize for an error which crept into our notice of a recent appointment at Croydon, where we should have said Mr. H. R. Purnell was appointed, instead of Mr. C. J. Purnell, M.A.



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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### CATALOGUES.

**Gravesend Public Library.** Catalogue of books in the lending library, with descriptive notes and cross-references. Compiled by the Librarian [Alex. J. Philip]. 137 pp., 9½" × 6½". Gravesend, 1906. Price ninepence.

A dictionary catalogue, two columns to the page. Entries are considerably cut down, and the "descriptive notes," for financial



reasons no doubt, are rather few and far between. What there are, however, are very good, no space being wasted in critical tags. There seems to be some subtle distinction between "see" and "refer to" in the mind of the compiler. Thus we find "Aeronautics. *Refer to* Balloons," and "Airships. *See* Balloons." In one entry, probably because "changes are lightsome," we find both: "Biography. *See also* under individual names, and such headings as women. And *refer also* to autobiographies." A number of biographical entries here, by the way, are wrongly entered under "Bibliography." On the whole a very commendable specimen of a dictionary catalogue, and produced in a more tasteful way than most.

**Hammersmith Public Libraries.** Catalogue of the books contained in the lending department of the Carnegie (central) library. Compiled by Samuel Martin, Chief Librarian. 238 pp., 9½" × 6¼". Two illustrations. Portrait of Dr. Carnegie. Hammersmith, 1905. Price one shilling.

A dictionary catalogue, two columns to the page. This catalogue does not call for any special notice. It comprises most of the familiar features of its form, and presents no novelties in arrangement. It is, however, extremely accurate, and this is a quality by no means to be despised.

**Kilburn Public Library.** Classified catalogue of books in the lending department. Compiled by the Librarian, James A. Seymour. 120 + 45 pp., 8½" × 5½", 1905. Price sixpence.

Arranged under eight divisions, and each division is arranged according to a number of alphabetical subdivisions. There is no index, either author or subject, which is a disadvantage in a catalogue of this sort. An index is not an expensive feature, and should certainly be added to future editions. More careful proof-reading would have been to the catalogue's advantage. Bad mistakes are absent, but there are a number of small inaccuracies, and the alphabetical order is shaky in places. It is a praiseworthy effort, nevertheless, and most of its failings are due to the fact that a systematic scheme of classification has not been taken as the basis. We must apologize for not having noted this catalogue before.

**Nottingham Free Public Libraries.** Second supplementary author-list of fiction, poetry and the drama, 1900-1906. 32 pp., 9¾" × 6". Nottingham, 1906. Price threepence.

A simple author list, two columns to the page, with entries cut down as much as possible. The punctuation adopted for the authors' names occasionally results in an unmerited insinuation against those estimable folk; e.g. :—

"HARDY. Iza Duffus, Butterfly: her friends and her fortunes."

**Stockholm.** Katalog öfver Statens Järnvägars Vandringsbibliotek, No. 1-60. Jämte stadgar och reglemente. 64 pp., 8½" × 5½". Stockholm: Oskar Eklunds boktryckeri, 1906.

A catalogue of a system of travelling libraries in force at Stockholm. The sixty libraries are arranged under five districts, twelve libraries to a district, and an interchange goes on within each district. On an average there are about thirty volumes in each library, and in this pamphlet a separate catalogue is given to each library. The entries are brief author and title ones, and there are no annotations. It is interesting to note that well known English authors such as Dickens, Scott, Kipling, Cooper, Marryat, W. W. Jacobs, Hall Caine, Bret Harte, Farrar, Stevenson, Haggard, and many others appear in full force in Swedish editions.

#### MAGAZINES, &c.

**Brighton:** *Library and Museum Record*, October and November, 1905. These are the first two parts, just to hand, of a new magazine. They are of convenient size and are tastefully produced. In addition to lists of additions, with scattered annotation, there are reading lists on Nelson, the Fiscal Question, and Home Rule.

**Brooklyn:** *Bulletin*, January, 1906. Classified list of additions.

**Columbia:** Reference lists, No. 4: Interesting biographies. 8 pp. No. 5: Periodicals. 12 pp. Two more of the handy little annotated pocket lists issued by the Public Library of the District of Columbia. These little lists are inexpensive to produce, and the method might with advantage be adopted by many English libraries unable to support a magazine.

**Nottingham:** *Library Bulletin*, March, 1906. Lists of additions and the usual features.

**Pittsburgh:** *Monthly Bulletin*, January, 1906. Contains general notes and a fully annotated classified list of additions. This Bulletin represents a very much higher state of library magazine efficiency than most of the American productions, and is well worth the study of librarians issuing or about to issue a magazine. The title-page and index to vol. 10 accompany this number.

**Pratt Institute, Baltimore:** *Monthly Bulletin*, January, 1906. List of additions with occasional annotations.

**Wandsworth:** *Quarterly Journal*, November, 1905. List of additions and part of an "indicator key" for the Allfarthing Lane Library.



## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Abbott (Edwin A.)** Johannine Grammar. London: A. & C. Black, 1906. 8°, 9", pp. xxvii. + 687. Price 16s. 6d. net.

An examination of the grammar and modes of expression used by the writer of the Fourth Gospel, with a view to the elucidation of obscure passages; forming the sixth volume of the series designated by the author "Diatessarica," and a sequel to the fifth volume, "Johannine Vocabulary," to which it contains indexes.

A most valuable, and in fact almost indispensable, work for every student of New Testament Greek, marked by all the acumen, erudition and painstaking industry, so characteristic of Dr. Abbott's writings. The methodical arrangement, the illustrative quotations, and the three copious indexes with which it is supplied, leave nothing to be desired in the way of completeness, and make the volume of much value, even to those who know little or nothing of Greek. It should certainly find a place in every reference library.

**Bumpus (T. F.)** The Cathedrals of England and Wales. 2nd series. London: T. Werner Laurie, 1906. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 300, *illustr.* Price 6s. net.

Historical and architectural notices of Canterbury, York, St. Paul's (London), Winchester, Norwich, Peterborough, Exeter, Wells.

This work was originally intended to occupy but two volumes, but owing to the interest and wealth of the materials, it has been decided to extend it to three series. This volume well maintains the high character of the first series, which we noticed last year, and the work promises to be one of the most complete accounts of the English cathedrals in a handy form.

**Frazer (Norman L.)** Summary of English History. 8°, 7½". London: A. & C. Black, 1906. Price 2s.

Primarily a book of historical dates divided into stages of national development, with 12 maps and 53 illustrations. This section is followed by dates of

events in Indian and colonial history, leading foreign events, a glossary of historical terms, genealogical tables, and special topics. 140 pages of biographies conclude the volume.

We have other "books of dates," and find none which, in so small a space, provides an equal amount of information. We have tested and found this a most valuable little book; one which ought to be in every reference library. Perhaps the space devoted to portraits, or to some of them, might be better devoted to a table of reference to events, for example:—

Black Death	...	...	1349
Pilgrimage of Grace	...	...	1536
Spurs (battle of the)	...	...	1513
Strafford executed	...	...	1641
Wyatt's rebellion	...	...	1554

A map showing approximately the pre-Roman tribal divisions of Britain might be added to future editions, and the map on p. 14 should not be shaded to indicate Essex as part of East Anglia, while the East Saxon kingdom should be added to the map on p. 10.

**Hyamson (Albert M.)** A Dictionary of artists and art terms (architects, engravers, painters, sculptors, etc.). London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., n.d. [1906]. 4", pp. vi + 178. Price 1s. net.

A volume of Routledge's Miniature Reference Library devoted to one-line biographical notes of great artists of all kinds, definitions of art terms, etc.

**Japan Year-book.** Tokyo: "Japan Year-book" Office, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. vi. + 362 and appendix 54. Price 4s. 4d.

This is a kind of Japanese "Whitaker," "Who's Who," and "Statesman's Year-book" in one, and gives full statistical and other information concerning the geography, population, court, administration, agriculture, banks, trade, education and contemporary worthies of Japan. As regards libraries it is stated that at March, 1904, Japan had 86 libraries, containing 912,242 works in Japanese or Chinese, and 80,899 in Occidental languages. The visitors numbered 564,591. The book should be stocked in every Public Library because of the out-of-the-way information it contains. All the generals and admirals connected with the late war are included in the biographical portion, and some of the entries being rather quaint, the book is thus rendered exceedingly readable. For example, "Shimoda, Wako, Mad., is one of the foremost blue-stockings and educationalist," etc.

**Lang (Andrew).** The Clyde mystery. A study in forgeries and folklore. 8°, 7¾". Glasgow: James MacLehose & Sons, 1905. Price 4s. 6d. net.

A treatise on the much-disputed origin of certain relics discovered in and near the Clyde, with excursions into the realm of folklore. Numerous illustrations elucidate the text.

U. O. P.

Though appealing to the limited circle of readers interested in archæological discoveries, needless to say that, written by Dr. A. Lang, this book will be welcome to a wider public than is included in the membership of antiquarian societies; in fact, the sentences flow pleasantly, and contain many "bits" the reader will enjoy.

As to the main point at issue, we can only say that, having handled and carefully examined the mysterious objects found on the Clyde, we agree with Dr. Lang, and determine to "possess our souls in patience," awaiting the result of future researches.

**Lightwood (James T.)** Hymn-tunes and their story. London: Charles H. Kelly, n.d. [1906]. 8°, 8¼", pp. xiv. + 402, *music*. Price 5s. net.

An historical account, with many examples of the melodies of all the best known and popular hymn-tunes, beginning with the German chorale, and tracing the psalmody and hymnology through various centuries to the present time.

A useful and meritorious work, based on the work of good authorities and original research, which forms a valuable addition to the literature of the subject. It is often difficult to lay hands on the history of particular hymn-tunes, such information being, as a rule, buried away in magazines or special books which are not generally known, and Mr. Lightwood has assembled in a handy and well-arranged form just the very kind of information required.

**Lucy (Margaret).** Shakespeare and the supernatural, a brief study of folklore, superstition and witchcraft in "Macbeth," "Midsummer Night's Dream," and "The Tempest." With a bibliography of the subject by William Jaggard. Liverpool: Jaggard & Co., 1906. 8°, 9", pp. 38. Price 2s. net.

This useful little book is fully explained by its title. The bibliography extends to five pages of brief entries in author-alphabetical order.

**Richardson (Charles F.)** The Choice of books. Authorized edition, revised, together with suggestions for libraries, selected lists of books of reference, history, biography, and literature, with the best current editions, notes and prices. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1905. 8°, 7¼", pp. vi. + 208, and 168. Price 6s.

A re-issue, extended and revised, of a useful American work which first appeared in 1881, and was afterwards "pirated" in a wholesale manner owing to an accidental loss of copyright. This edition is a great improvement on the original, and the "Suggestions for Libraries" is a useful list of the best books suitable for household and other libraries. It possesses the merit, seldom found in American compilations of this sort, of being free from the *local* character nearly always imparted to such works, and for the catholicity and universality of its selections.

**Simpson (Percy).** Scenes from old playbooks arranged as an introduction to Shakespeare. With a reproduction of the Swan Theatre. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1906. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. viii. + 248. Price 3s. 6d.

Scenes from plays by Shakespeare, Fletcher, Marlowe, Heywood, Ford, Massinger and Marston, arranged for acting by schools, etc., and introducing historical scenes and characters from the contemporary life of the people.

A capital book for students and persons interested in giving Shakespearean readings or recitals.

**Who's Who**, 1906. London: A. & C. Black. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. 1878. Price 7s. 6d. net.

This indispensable library tool is nearly 100 pages thicker than it was in 1905, and if this increase is maintained, it is evident that either two volumes is foreshadowed, or some abridgment must be made in the notices. The most hopeful field for such pruning seems to lie in the official world, which is already represented by its own annuals, and it might be well to cut down the notices of mere officials, county magistrates, retired nobodies and others to dimensions more in keeping with their actual achievements and importance. Nevertheless, the book is wonderfully useful, and its accuracy is well maintained.

**Who's Who Year-book**, for 1906. London: A. & C. Black, 1906. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. viii. + 132. Price 1s. net.

**The Writer's and Artist's Year-book**, 1906. A Directory for writers, artists and photographers. London: A. & C. Black. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. viii. + 80. Price 1s. net.

Two useful annuals, the former giving its useful official and other lists, and the latter being a kind of annotated journalistic guide, plus a list of publishers and book producers generally. We are pained to find the *Library World* absent from the list of magazines, but as our scale of remuneration is not only small, but extremely uncertain, it is perhaps as well not to encourage false hopes by placing our name among the elect!

**The Singer's Companion.** 100 Songs, popular, classical and humorous. London: Bayley & Ferguson [1905]. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Price 1s. 6d.

**The Singer's Pocket Portfolio** of 101 favourite Songs. London: Bayley & Ferguson [1905]. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. + 192. Price 1s. 6d.

Two handy and useful pocket collections of popular songs with pianoforte accompaniments, containing a good selection of standard and favourite songs of all kinds.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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## THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

## PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION, 1906.

THE Professional Examination for 1906 will be held on May 7th to 11th inclusive. Centres will be arranged to suit the convenience of candidates, and will be announced in due course.

*Monday, May 7th.*

Morning : Section I. Literary History.

Afternoon : Section II. Bibliography.

*Tuesday, May 8th.*

Section III. Classification, Practical and Theoretical.

*Wednesday, May 9th.*

Section IV. Cataloguing, Practical and Theoretical.

*Thursday, May 10th.*

Section V. Library History and Organization ; two papers.

*Friday, May 11th.*

Section VI. Practical Library Administration ; two papers.

The Board of Examiners have set the following as subjects for the essays :—

Section I. (Literary History.) Essay on Charles Lamb, or "A Comparison between English Literature at the beginning and end of the nineteenth century."

Section II. (Bibliography.) "A Bibliography of Charles Lamb and selected criticisms."

Section III. (Classification.) "The Objects of a Subject Classification of Books, to be illustrated by any one scheme."

Section IV. (Cataloguing.) "The Use and Abuse of Annotation."

Section V. (Library History.) "Regulations affecting the Loan of Books in Libraries."

Section VI. (Practical Library Administration.) "The Children's Department in Municipal Libraries."

Intending students, who are reminded that there is no entrance fee, are required to send in their names to the honorary secretary of the Education Committee, Whitcomb House, Whitcomb Street, Pall Mall East, London, S.W., on or before Saturday, March 31st, 1906. Copies of the detailed Syllabus, together with the examination questions set in 1905, may be obtained upon application.

The fourth meeting of the present session was held at the London School of Economics on Monday, February 19, at 8 p.m., when about twenty or thirty members and visitors attended. Mr. E.

Wyndham Hulme was called to the chair, and, after ten new members and associates had been duly elected, announced that a paper on "The Libraries and the Counties," by Mr. H. Farr, of Cardiff, which was down for discussion, had been postponed till the March meeting. Mr. R. W. Mould, of the Southwark Public Libraries, then read an able and suggestive paper, entitled

WANTED--A CLASSIFICATION,

which was chiefly a review of the advantages and drawbacks of the Dewey system, and a comparison, on various points, between it and the methods of Cutter and others. He suggested that the Library Association should devote a full session to the subject of classification at the Bradford meeting, and should endeavour to agree on a code or to formulate one. He briefly indicated a system of his own, with a notation consisting of alternations of numbers and letters, and in general rather seemed to expect the meeting to help him to make up his mind as to the most suitable system for Southwark, which, at present, seems to be arranged on four different plans!

In the debate which followed, most of the speakers rather confused classification with indexing and cataloguing, and failed entirely to grasp the important differences which exist between these methods of book description. One speaker objected to the Library Association making any effort to secure standardization of classification, on the ground that it would inevitably check the progress of ideas and induce professional stagnation. Another speaker dilated on the difficulties of terminology and the need for the exact interpretation and explanation of every single topic; a proceeding calculated to make an ordinary scheme as big as the "Encyclopædia Britannica"! A speaker complained that Dewey did not find places for groups of topographical and other subjects, and seemed to expect that a classification should do what few catalogues ever accomplish. The general impression left on the reporter's mind was that most of the speakers confused classification with cataloguing, and really alluded to difficulties and points entirely connected with the latter.

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LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the Branch was held at the Harris Institute, Preston, on Thursday, January 18th, 1906. The members were received by Alderman Hamilton, J.P., Chairman of the Preston Library Committee, the Mayor of Preston (Ald. Ormerod), Ald. Woods, Mr. W. S. Bramwell, Librarian, and Mr. W. B. Barton, Curator of the Art Gallery. Among those present were Messrs. C. W. Sutton, C. Madeley, J. W. Singleton, H. Townend, A. Sparke, C. H. Hunt, Edward McKnight, James Hutt, E. A. Baker, G. T. Shaw, C. Goodyear, Richard Ashton, John Haines, J. Pomfret, and Hargreaves Wilkinson. The members were entertained to tea by Ald. Hamilton,



who was very cordially thanked by Mr. C. W. Sutton, on behalf of the Branch. The Mayor of Preston paid a high tribute to Ald. Hamilton's great work in Preston on behalf of the Art Gallery and Public Library.

The business meeting was held in the Art Gallery, Mr. C. W. Sutton in the chair. The Secretary (Mr. C. Madeley) read the following report:—

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

During the year 1905 the Branch met three times, as follows:— May 16th, annual meeting at the John Rylands Library; June 23rd, at the Wallasey Public Library, Liscard; October 12th, at the Bury Public Library.

The number of persons present at each of the first two meetings was 28, and at the last 50, the attendance on each occasion including a considerable proportion of visitors.

#### PAPERS READ.

The following papers have been read before the Branch during the year:—

- “The Music Library presented to the city of Manchester by Dr. H. Watson,” described by Dr. Watson.
- “Charles Dickens revisited,” by Mr. W. A. Sibbald (Wallasey Public Libraries Committee).
- “The Wallasey Public Libraries: points of library practice,” by Mr. E. A. Baker (Wallasey Public Libraries).
- “Bookbinding: a suggestion,” by Mr. J. W. Singleton (Accrington Public Library).
- “The Technical Library: its proper place,” by Mr. A. Sparke (Bolton Public Library).
- “The Bury Public Library and Art Gallery,” by Mr. H. Townend (Bury Public Library).
- “Bury Bibliography,” by Mr. J. A. Green (Moss Side Public Library, Manchester).

The number of members of the Branch at this date is 62, of whom 55 are members of the Library Association, and 7 of the Branch only. There are 113 members of the Library Association residing in Lancashire and Cheshire, but the number mentioned (55) includes all those who have so far indicated in any way their desire to become members of the Branch. It is probable that the number of both classes of members might be greatly increased by a little systematic canvassing.

#### ACCOUNTS.

The Secretary presented a financial statement showing an income of £15 14s. 0½d. and an expenditure of £11 14s. 5½d., with a balance in hand of £3 19s. 7d.

#### SUMMER SCHOOL.

The Secretary of the Summer School Committee (Mr. Edward McKnight) submitted the report of that committee. The Summer School of the Branch was held in the Central Public Library, the

Gamble Institute, St. Helens, on the 27th, 28th, and 29th June, 1905. Twenty-two students attended, from the following libraries: Accrington, Blackburn, Bolton Co-operative, Bootle, Darwen, Denton, Eccles, Liverpool Lyceum, St. Helens, Wallasey, Warrington, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Widnes, and Wigan. Mr. H. R. Lacey, the venerable chairman of the St. Helens Libraries Committee, offered a very cordial welcome to the students on behalf of the Mayor and Corporation.

The following lectures were given:—

- “The Story of Books,” by Mr. James Hutt, M.A., Librarian of the Lyceum Library.
- “Library Charging Systems,” by Mr. Alfred Lancaster, Librarian of the St. Helens Public Libraries.
- “Aids for Readers,” by Mr. G. T. Shaw, Librarian of the Liverpool Athenæum.
- “The History of Bookbinding,” by Mr. C. H. Hunt, Librarian of the Bootle Public Libraries.
- “Practical Cataloguing,” by Mr. E. A. Baker, M.A., Librarian of the Wallasey Public Libraries.

On Thursday visits were paid to the Thatto Heath Branch Library and the Eccleston Branch Library, after which the students were entertained to tea by the Libraries Committee.

Fourteen students sent in reports of the lectures, and prizes for the best papers were awarded: 1st prize, Mr. Herbert Henderson, Liverpool Lyceum Library; 2nd prize, Mr. Sydney Lamb, St. Helens Public Library; 3rd prize, Mr. Herbert Edwards, St. Helens Public Library.

The thanks of the Summer School Committee are due and have been offered to the St. Helens Committee for their assistance in making the school a success.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The Report of the Committee on the Education of Library Assistants in the North-Western District was submitted by the secretary to the committee, Mr. McKnight, and was referred to the Council for consideration and report to the next general meeting.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS: NEW PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

The election of officers and Council was as follows:—President: Councillor T. C. Abbott, Manchester; Hon. Secretary: Mr. Edward McKnight, Chorley; Council: Messrs. R. Ashton, E. A. Baker, H. Guppy, C. H. Hunt, J. Hutt, A. Lancaster, C. Madeley, B. H. Mullen, H. Plummer, G. T. Shaw, J. Shepherd, and C. W. Sutton.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

It was proposed by Mr. Shaw, and resolved: That the thanks of the members be given to Ald. Southern for the service he has rendered to the Branch as president during the last two years.

It was proposed by Mr. Sutton, seconded by Mr. Baker, and resolved: That the thanks of the members be given to Mr. Madeley for his services as secretary since the formation of the Branch.

A vote of thanks was given to the Preston Library Committee, and to Mr. Bramwell for the hospitality afforded to the Branch.

#### A JAPANESE LIBRARY.

A paper by the Rev. W. F. Madeley, "On a Provincial Library in Japan," was read by the secretary.

The writer has been a resident in Akita six years. Akita is a "county" town of 38,000 inhabitants 300 miles north of Tokio, and till recently unconnected by rail. English inhabitants, two families only. Library contains 40,000 volumes old Chinese and Japanese books, and about 500 English ones. The English books include many of the most modern books of reference (*Encyclopædia Britannica*, *Century Dictionary*, *Men of the Time*, etc.). These are in the reference department. For lending there are the *Story of the Nations Series*, *The Cambridge Modern History*, Herbert Spencer's *Works*, Morley's *Gladstone*, and so on. Naturally, there is a large selection of technical literature, and a fairly complete collection of English and American books on Japan. The rules have a strangely familiar sound. The library is free to all for reference, and free for lending to all who produce a certificate of having paid a certain minimum amount of annual taxes.

The reading-room is supplied with a number of English and American reviews and magazines, including the weekly edition of the *Times*.

During the war, in order to comply with the general reduction of public expenditure, the library hours were shortened, the staff reduced, the periodical list and purchase list cut down; but these measures are no doubt only temporary.

#### CONTROVERSIAL POINTS IN CLASSIFICATION.

Mr. Edward McKnight, Librarian of the Chorley Public Library, read a paper on "Some Controversial Points in Classification," in which were discussed some principles of classification, the determining factor in deciding the classification of books, and the reasons for and against variation from established rules. The paper was discussed by Messrs. Sutton, Baker, Madeley and others.

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#### NORTH MIDLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A SUCCESSFUL meeting of the North Midland Library Association was held at Stamford, on February 8th, under the presidency of Mr. Gerring. The members were welcomed by Major Hart, chairman of the Stamford Public Library, and other members of that body. Mr. T. Dent, of Nottingham, read a paper on "The origin and development of libraries"; Mr. Walker, of Stamford, on "The Library movement in Stamford"; Mr. Willcock, of Peterborough, on "Children's reading-rooms"; and Mr. Eason, of Nottingham, on "Some Public Libraries in America." Full discussion followed the reading of these papers, in which Miss Hill and Messrs. Gerring, Briscoe, Walton,

Glover, Easom, Willcock, and others took part. Mr. Walker, of Stamford, was elected to membership. The arrangements for the April meeting were left in the hands of Mr. Potter Briscoe, the hon. secretary. Other business was transacted. The visitors inspected the new Carnegie Library, where the meeting was held, the Corporation regalia, and several of the fine churches, of which Stamford may well be proud.

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## THE PSEUDONYMS.

THE subject of discussion at the meeting before last, was  
BOOK EUTHANASIA,

or the easy death of unfit literature, by a past-master in the art of destructive criticism. The Christian assumed the chair, and at once attacked his subject with vigour and an unstinted use of expletives drawn from the classic pages of John Bee and Captain Grose. His view of the subject of library-weeding was that all libraries should be regularly pruned and trimmed, regardless of their standing or purpose; and he scorned to distinguish between bibliographical stores like the British Museum and mere work-a-day municipal libraries. As far as could be gathered, amidst the uproar of an animated discussion, conducted by several members speaking all at once, out of their turns, the Christian was understood to define unsuitable books as those of which *he* disapproved. It was pointed out that in such circumstances the only proper course would be for Parliament to create a new office of library weeder-out or chucker-out, and to entrust the work to the Christian—at an adequate salary of course—as being the only person in the civilized globe who was cock-sure of all the useless books in any library. Most of the speakers who could be heard above the chairman's double-forte interruptions, expressed some modesty as to their ability to discard books with unflinching confidence, and some of them were of opinion that one library at least in every country should preserve *everything*. The rules for weeding-out contained in Brown's "Manual of Library Economy" were generally approved as models of caution and common-sense, and most of the arguments pro and con were manifestly suggested by the chapters on book selection in that work. The Chairman in his reply abandoned all attempts at euthanasia, and simply distributed "pap with a hatchet" in the most impartial manner, incidentally scalping himself and reducing all the members to a state of stupor by his quotations from ancient writings.

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The last meeting of the Pseudonyms was presided over by the Roman Singer, who charmed the members by his naive impersonation of a chairman unaccustomed to public speaking, and by his well-acted "asides," which formed the bulk of his address. It is seldom that a company is gratified with the spectacle of a chairman reading a correct, formal, stilted address from written notes, and

punctuating it with a whole series of parenthetical digressions, in which the natural man is shown in conflict with the dignified stiffness of the man in the chair. It was very cleverly done, and the members were delighted. The subject down for discussion was

#### MAMMY-LIBRARIANSHIP,

a plea for the "dear little souls" with the moist noses. The Chairman described the children's department of a particular library, and gave many interesting glimpses of the work done on behalf of juveniles of all ages. He defined his topic as a kind of "Nipperology," and gave full details of actual working, and pitfalls to be avoided. He said, among other things, that it was very necessary that the sterilized-milk cistern should be kept clean, and that ["Hang it all, I've lost the place again! Oh, here it is!"]—that the pocket-handkerchief cabinet should be kept constantly replenished. He advocated strongly the employment of a female sponger in connection with lollipop drill, and said ["Oh, glory! I can't read my own fist!"] that he a—a—a—thought some extension of the "Candy-hour" would be advantageous, though he said that the Turkish delight "Half-hour slobber" had proved a horribly adhesive nightmare. Asked what he meant by the lollipop and Turkish delight functions, he explained that in the intervals of reciting "Hey, diddle, diddle," and telling fairy tales to newly "shortened" nippers, it was wise to interest other children by passing round small tubs of candy and other goodies, to be picked out with military precision and discipline. Gloves were served out, and at the word "Attention!" the whole of the Nippers spring into rigidity with extended arms; then, as the tub is passed round, each Nipper at the orders "Pick!—Stuff!—Gobble!" performs these actions, and so a love of order and obedience is instilled into the dear little souls. It was in connection with this drill that he advocated ["No more wine, man. Don't you see I'm nearly blind as it is?"], seriously advocated, the employment of spongers, if Turkish delight and other malignant adhesives were used. Altogether he had found the work delightful, and many salutary lessons could be conveyed by simple means, when more formal methods failed. For instance, he had found it more effective to serve out cigarette papers for sketching purposes than to read extracts from Baden-Powell's philippic against cigarette-smoking among the youth of the country. It was better to have a "Drawing Hour" for children than to tempt them to sketch on the backs of plates or end papers of books during the "Story hour." Before he adopted this plan of issuing paper and pencils for sketching purposes, some boys ["Drat 'em!"] had spoiled a white bow-windowed waist-coat of his by covering it with cartoons. There was only one drawback he had met with in connection with modern Nipperology, and that was the embarrassing attentions of twenty or thirty girls when the "Two Hours' Walk" was instituted. Usually a deputation of the whole bevy waited on his doorstep to escort him to the station, and there was always a most unseemly struggle for possession of his arms when he appeared; which, when watched by one's wife, wearing an

apprehensive frown, was generally a presage of coming disquietude. ["Oh, Lord! the beans I've had after those blessed 'Walks'!"] On the way to the station he invariably met every person he knew in the town, and between giggles and sneers, and the difficulty of walking properly in a tightly jammed clump of petticoats, both mind and body were kept in an acute state of perspiration. On the whole, he believed in the work, and thought it ought to be instituted everywhere.

A long discussion followed, in which the pros and cons of Mammy-Librarianship were handled by different speakers. Uncle Remus was most emphatically of opinion that molly-coddling of children was one of the mistakes of modern librarianship. Kids in these days were being absolutely spoiled in every direction. Even their thinking was done for them by librarians, and other much more important departments were being ruined or starved in the interests of a mere sentimental fad. He thought it time that this mixture of the school-marm and nursery-governess in library work was put down with a strong hand. Rob Roy said he sympathized with much of the work done for children in British libraries. He thought it tended to make men and women of children who were either in impoverished circumstances or neglected, and that many good citizens were being made out of material which would otherwise degenerate into the "gutter-blood" type of loafer. But when he had said that, he must absolutely decline to allow the same merit to the silly, old-maidish and utterly wrong-headed method of children's work adopted in some parts of the United States. It was entirely in the hands of women who were the products of Bloomerism, Women's Rights, Higher Education, Woman's Sodality, and other factors in the social life of America. These women were in the miserable position of having to adopt some kind of professional work owing to a huge decline in the marriage rate, and their natural inclination towards the "mothering" of children had been stifled by all kinds of artificial agencies. The result was that, in course of time, nature asserted itself, and this extraordinary extension of nursery methods in librarianship was one of the dire results. The average American teacher or librarian shuts her eyes to everything outside the four corners of the States, and, in a kind of Korean, hermit-like condition of mind, proceeds to impress poor wee Jonathan with the belief that his forefathers licked creation in everything, and that he has only to imbibe a big enough bellyful of this mock-patriotic balderdash to do likewise. Contempt for the English and all foreign nations is taught in school histories, and by means of commemorative celebrations of this, that, or the other anniversary of battles, declarations of independence and so forth. The libraries are festooned with strings of the star-spangled banner, the walls covered with portraits of Washington and spirited pictures of British defeats on land and sea, and every text-book stocked has some kind of national bias. The *A.L.A. Catalogue* is a standing example of this kind of narrow-minded patriotism, because readers, young and old, in American libraries are taught to read and believe that only America has a flora and fauna, or literature, or science, or manufactures, among all the countries of the world. No wonder

the middle-aged American has to undertake so much European travel in order to remedy the defects of his early education! If as much money and time were spent in British libraries on such absurdly feminine methods of pampering children, not a farthing would remain for the other departments of work. No Name was inclined to think that the American methods of work for children were largely induced by local conditions. The presence of large numbers of Italian, Polish, and other illiterate children almost forced upon the library authorities elementary, social and pictorial plans of attracting such future citizens to the libraries. He confessed to having a certain sneaking regard for the *crèche* or nursery children's library, although he was certain that financial difficulties would militate against its general adoption in this country.

Most of the other speakers were complimentary to the chairman, and in general sympathy with the movement in favour of children's libraries, when tempered with discretion.

The Chairman had intended to reply in detail to every point raised in the discussion, but, on consulting his notes, found that he had shuffled them in the most hopeless manner. He therefore wound up the debate with an aside, addressed to his table-napkin: "Bless my soul! I don't know now who said what!"



## CORRESPONDENCE.

o o o

17th February, 1906.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—I am a regular reader, like Mr. Bond, of your occasionally entertaining but usually uninformative periodical. Among the articles which neither amuse nor instruct me are those by Mr. Brown, and the constant stream of literature emanating from junior assistants at Croydon. That, however, is by the way. The immediate purpose of this letter is to say that, like Mr. Bond, I observe with regret the extremely misleading statements and comparisons which are prevalent in regard to various systems of library service. I refer particularly to the literature dealing with the indicator.

That, contrary to what is usually thought, I am not strongly opposed to the indicator is proved by the fact that I was heard by several friends of mine to remark only a few days ago that I consider that the adoption of the indicator would materially advance the cause of Public Library efficiency—in the Lake Regions of Central Africa.

I have, in fact, sufficient confidence in the future of the indicator—for breweries—that it annoys me considerably to see its claims advocated in the feeble manner in which it is generally done. I am, I hope, above all the petty squabbles of those who press the claims of this system or that.

The point to which I particularly wish to draw the attention of your readers is the statement often made as to the large number of libraries which have adopted the indicator. In the first place, the statement applies to the Public Libraries of this country only; in the second place—and this is the important point—the comparison is made only with existing libraries. I have consulted several Egyptologists of my acquaintance, and they one and all assure me that there is no reason whatsoever to suppose that any form of indicator was adopted in the libraries of ancient Egypt. I am quite impartial in this matter, as I said before.

I do not happen to be friendly with an Assyriologist, but I doubt if the indicator was employed there any more than in Egypt. I should like to repeat—for the third time, I think—that I am absolutely impartial. The bearing of the fact that I have mentioned with reference to ancient libraries and the indicator is just this. We are told in various printed circulars that so many libraries (two or three hundred—never mind the exact figures) use the indicator, whereas what does this paltry list of libraries amount to when one remembers that the number of libraries which do *not* use the indicator must amount to thousands upon thousands, ancient and modern? I should like to repeat, for the fourth time, that I am absolutely impartial in this matter. It is generally recognized that when a thing is said three times it is *so*. Consequently, when said four times, it is, I presume, so-so.

Personally, I have always thought the indicator a remarkably ingenious contrivance. By pulling out the indicator books half-way, one has a remarkably convenient series of hat-pegs for the use of the staff. I have also found that a great deal of entertainment can be got out of staring fixedly at an indicator number and then looking at a piece of white paper or the ceiling, *à la* the advertisement of a certain soap.

I am not a *strong* advocate of either open access, indicator, card-charging, book-charging, Free Trade, the submerged tenth, or evolution, but I try, and I hope succeed, in taking an absolutely impartial view of every question which comes before me.

I do trust, Sir, that in consequence of this letter you really will exclude from your periodical anything not up to my standard, both in style and breadth of outlook. I do not mind at all, in fact, editing your periodical, if you are tired of it or have any doubt about your own editorial capacity.

Faithfully yours,

A LIBRARIAN WITH AN OPEN MIND.

PS.—Please do not forget that I am absolutely impartial in this matter.

P.PS.—I hope, Mr. Editor, you will think over the very handsome offer that I have made you.

P.P.PS.—I scorn to take a narrow view of things. If anybody is impartial, I am.



February 14th, 1906.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—Mr. Bond's letter in your last issue surprises me, not on account of his criticism of the *Library World*—the paper and its circulation are the concern of its publishers—but because of his attitude towards a question which the Association Council, of which Mr. Bond is a member, have decreed shall not be mentioned in polite circles. Mr. Bond would like to see "a list of towns . . . which have adopted the indicator." In other words, Mr. Bond would like to see another flood of personality and invective sweep over the profession (or the professional occupation, as Mr. Clarke prefers to call it). Two years ago I suggested that official figures should be gathered by the Association, without any expression of opinion, with regard to this vexed question. My idea was, and still is, that it would be possible to circulate a form of queries, to the answers to which an authoritative reference might be made, and which would put an effectual stop to the circulation of abuse. Such a form of questions I have ready drawn up, and hope to submit at the next annual meeting. The subject would have been brought up at the last Conference, but the notice of motion was a day late. Mr. Bond's letter would lead one to think that it is not so much that the subject of open access is an indecent one as that the attitude is one of "alone we did it," or "a sort of Tom Tiddler's Ground."

With your permission I should like to relate the little episode of two years ago which was my first lesson in "method." In the course of a discussion, in which open access had been dragged in, I unintentionally let fall the suggestion I have mentioned. I was immediately asked by a member of the Council if I would formally move the matter the next day. Unaccountable difficulties were placed in my way, but my suspicions were not aroused, as another member of the Council had supported the first request. The motion was put, and was seconded by Mr. H. Tapley Soper. Those two members of the Council were the only opponents!

Yours faithfully,

ALEX. J. PHILIP.

*Public Library, Gravesend, Kent.*


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 THE PITTSBURGH CATALOGUE.

January 30th, 1906.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—On page 164 of the *Library World* for December, 1905, a notice of the pamphlet parts of our Classified Catalogue. The writ dwells on the fact that there is no subject index to these pamphlet. In justice to us, I beg therefore that you will print the following statement.

The "Explanation" which is printed at the beginning of each of these pamphlets, states: "For the convenience of readers, the different sections will be issued separately in pamphlet form as they are printed. *When all parts are completed, an index of authors and subjects will be added and the sections bound together, making a complete Classified Catalogue in book form.*" These pamphlet parts are simply issued as a convenience to our readers for use until the catalogue is completed, and are therefore expected to be ephemeral. Consequently it is not fair to judge them by the standard of a complete work. When the catalogue is issued, it will have a full index to subjects as well as an author index, but it was not deemed feasible to do this work for each separate pamphlet, since the pamphlets were not expected to take the place of the complete catalogue, but simply to serve as a temporary convenience. We hope to complete the catalogue and issue it in book form by the close of this year.

Very truly yours,

ANDERSON H. HOPKINS, Librarian.

*Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

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"BOOK PRICES CURRENT."

19th February, 1906.

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.

SIR,—My attention has been called to the notice of the latest volume of "Book Prices Current" appearing in your issue of February. It is not possible, I regret to say, to give the index in one alphabet as suggested. A desirable though that would certainly be, "Book Prices Current" published in quarterly parts (at one time it appeared monthly) is the wish of many subscribers, who, for one reason or another, do not have it in that form. I do not see how the alphabetical arrangement could be followed under the circumstances. The reference is made in your notice, has not come to my attention. Some six or eight months ago, a gentleman suggesting an index of *Incunabula*, to be arranged, by reference to localities, *i.e.*, towns, it is the only occasion on which I have heard of the more strange as I am in constant touch with the work, and with many others who have time to time. To collect the *Incunabula* and add them to the index under a special title, would be a small matter; and if there is a distinction, it can be made in the forthright way of testing the demand, your readers may say at the same time how, and then out, for to index the centres of

printing rather than the names of the printers, in a practical work like "Book Prices Current," seems to me to be objectionable in many ways.

Yours faithfully,

J. HERBERT SLATER.

*7, Cameron Road, North Park, Croydon.*

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LIBRARY SUMMER SCHOOL.

February 20th, 1906.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—Several suggestions have been made to the Education Committee to hold a Summer School in London this year. Before, however, taking any active steps in the matter, the committee would like to have some idea as to the possible demand for the revival of the school.

I should be glad, therefore, if any assistants, either in London or the country, who would care to attend such a school, which in all probability would be held in June or July, would communicate with me at once. Should a sufficient number signify their wish to be present, I think there is little doubt that a most interesting meeting could be arranged.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY D. ROBERTS,

Hon. Sec., Education Committee of the  
Library Association.

*Whitcomb House, Whitcomb Street,  
Pall Mall East, S.W.*

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**W**ANTED.—Copies of the *Library World* for March, 1905, and November, 1905. Sixpence each will be paid for quite clean and perfect copies.

Library Supply Co., 181, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

## CLASSIFICATION GUIDES AND INDEXES.

By ERNEST A. SAVAGE, *Borough Librarian, Bromley, Kent.*

o o o

THE following is a memorandum upon a system of guiding the shelves and indexing the contents of an open-shelf reference or lending library:—

1. The Decimal classification is used to three figures, points being dispensed with wherever possible for the sake of simplicity and clearness. Folio and quarto books are not shelved with the octavo books, but are put together at the end of each main class. Nevertheless, the "octavo" classification is fully representative of the library, because, although reference blocks, or dummies, are not used as recommended by Mr. Dewey, manuscript references to "over-size" books are made in the manner explained in paragraph 9, below.

2. A plan of the room, showing the disposition of the book stacks, is hung up in a prominent position just inside the entrance. Upon this plan the extent of the main classes is indicated clearly by the use of a different colour for each. The size of the plan is 16-in. × 20-in.

3. The class numbers are lettered in gold upon the books, or written on small tags so plainly and distinctly that readers can follow the sequence readily.

4. Over the middle of each main class is a guide, the size of which, including the one-inch moulding of the frame, is 24-in. × 12½-in. The lettering of the guide is painted in white, black-shaded, on dark olive cardboard. Upper and lower case letters are used, the combination giving greater distinctness to words than capitals all through; their size varies from 2½-in. to 1½-in., according to the length of the class name. Each guide states the containing numbers and name of its class; thus:—

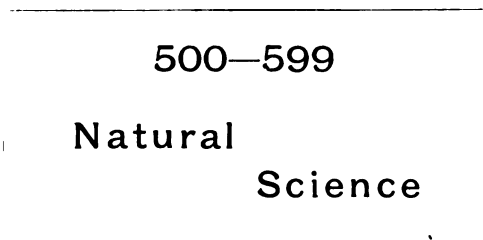


FIG. 1.

It is called the *class guide*, its object being to advertise the whereabouts of the class.

5. The name on this guide (but not the numbers) is repeated on a series of coloured labels, which are held by xylonite label-holders fixed to the second shelf from the top of each tier or bay of the stack containing the class :—

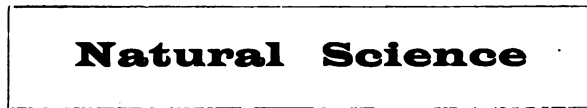


FIG. 2. Size, 5-in.  $\times$   $\frac{3}{4}$ -in.

The letters are stamped with a large rubber stamp. A label of a different colour is used for each class, and this colour corresponds with the colour marking that class on the plan mentioned in paragraph 2. The object of the coloured guides is to indicate clearly the beginning, continuation and end of a class. They delimit the class, of which the large class guide (paragraph 4) shows the position.

6. On the third shelf from the top of each tier—that is to say, on the shelf beneath the coloured delimiting guide—is a white guide, also held by a xylonite label-holder.

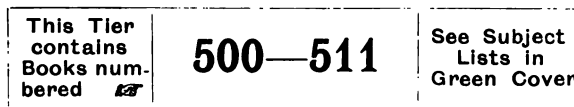


FIG. 3. Size, 5-in.  $\times$   $\frac{3}{4}$ -in.

This guide is called the *Tier Guide*, its object being to show plainly the contents of the tier.

7. The scheme of shelf-guiding proper is fully illustrated by the diagram (Fig. 4) of the labels provided for the "Natural Science" class, and for the first part of the "Useful Arts" class.

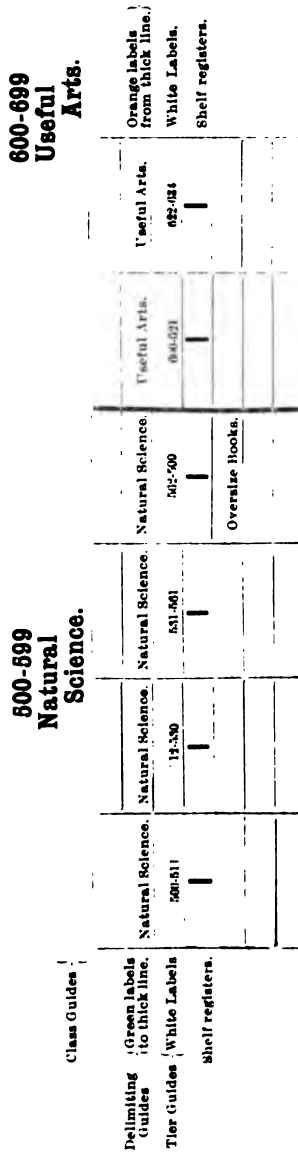


FIG. 4.

8. The student, however, not only wishes to be led to his specific subject, but finds it useful to understand the relation of such subject to wider or to other specific subjects. Projecting from the books on the

shelves below the tier guides are binders, on the inside covers of which class tables are pasted. Each of the four covers for "Natural Science" (see Fig. 4) contains a copy of the table of that class.

**Books on the Subjects marked \* are shelved in the Tier in which this Cover is placed.**

*NATURAL SCIENCE.*

* 500	<b>General works</b>	550	<b>Geology</b>
* 501	Philosophy	551	Physical geology
* 502	Compendis	552	Lithology
* 503	Dictionaries	553	Economic geology
* 504	Essays	554	Europe
* 505	Periodicals		Etc.
* 506	Societies		
* 507	Education		
* 508	Polygraphy		
* 509	History		
* 510	<b>Mathematics</b>		
* 511	Arithmetic		
512	Algebra		
	Etc.		

FIG. 5.

The asterisks are stamped or marked with ink, and are intended to indicate what subjects are shelved in the Tier.

9. The binder also contains the shelf register or subject lists for its tier. Fig. 4 shows the Natural Science shelf register in four sections, one section for each Tier, and that section relating exclusively to the books in the Tier. These subject lists are written on loose sheets, which are arranged in order of class numbers and bound into the cover by its clasps. The following is an example of part of one sheet. Line 4 illustrates the method of referring to "oversize" books.

AUTHOR.	TITLE.	CLASS No.
<b><u>Religion &amp; Science 215</u></b>		
<i>Argyll</i>	The Reign of law. 1887.	
<i>Billing</i>	Scientific materialism. 1864.	
<i>Bonney</i>	Old truths in modern lights. 1894.	
<i>Dick</i>	The Christian philosopher. [On shelf for oversize books, following 299].	
<i>Draper</i>	Conflict between religion and science. 1893.	
<p><b>When available for circulation, all the books contained in these Subject Lists are shelved in this Division in order of class number. See Subject Index.</b></p>		

FIG. 6.

[This shelf-register does not differ from the ordinary form in any important respect, except that it is designed for the use of readers, and not simply for official purposes, as is almost invariable with such registers.

Shelf-registers are provided for public use in some American libraries, but whether they are split up into small portions and shelved with the books, I do not know. Mr. Frank Seward, my assistant, first pointed out to me the advisability of having the subject catalogue of an open-shelf library in close proximity to the books it refers to. On consideration, it seemed to me that he was right, beyond all question. In an open-shelf library the principal uses of the subject catalogue are :

- (a) To discover what books on a subject are in stock, but not upon the shelves.
- (b) To be referred to other material illustrating the subject by means of cross-references and analyticals.

Where a subject card-catalogue is provided, object (a) is only achieved by the reader either copying out the titles in the catalogue and comparing his list with the titles of the books on the shelves, or by walking to and fro between the catalogue and the shelves until he is satisfied. This is inconvenient. A printed subject-catalogue supplied to all readers would serve the purpose better than a card-catalogue, but it is very expensive, and is open to the grave objection that it quickly goes out of date. Moreover, it seemed clear that shelf-registers could be made to answer all the questions of a subject card-catalogue, especially as the brevity of the entries might be amplified easily by reference to the books upon the shelves. Only in the case of books in circulation would a reader fail to get a good substitute for the full card-catalogue entry, and that seemed to me no great disadvantage. A further benefit to readers is the spreading of the subject lists over the whole library, so that congestion such as occurs at the card-catalogue is not possible. Besides the advantage of the arrangement to readers must be reckoned the cheapness of the covers and registers, which cost about one-fourteenth the price of a subject card-catalogue.

The only apparent disadvantage is wear and tear. The registers will be used to an enormously greater extent than a card-catalogue would be, and will quickly become dirty. To postpone the period of replacement as long as possible no little care has been devoted to the selection of the binders and material for the registers. The binder is of stout manilla reinforced with strawboard of the same thickness. The combination is tougher, and more flexible than millboard of twice its thickness, and it is also very light ; so that, if dropped by a careless reader, it would fall too gently to be damaged seriously. The covering used is green art canvas, which can be cleaned with formalin. The lining is of smooth black end paper, chosen because it will not show dirt, and because the black will not take off. The register sheets are also of good strong manilla, of a moderately deep buff tint. The size



of the binder (11-in. × 9-in.) is determined by the dimensions of the shelving, the object being to prevent a reader from putting the cover on the shelves except in the right way. With these precautions, it is expected that the work involved in replacing dirty registers will not be worth consideration.]

10. A Subject Index, on precisely the same lines as the relative index to the Decimal classification, was compiled especially to exhibit the contents of the library. Combined with this index is a brief description of the library, with an abstract of the rules, the whole forming a Handbook for readers. The cost of publication is covered by advertisements, and the index is distributed to readers free of charge.

11. The key to the guides and to the subjects represented in the library is this index. A reader desiring a book upon arithmetic will turn up the subject number, 511. The class guide will advertise the whereabouts of the 500-99 class. The tier guides will lead him to the tier containing books numbered 500-511. The numbers on the backs of the books lead directly to the place of the arithmetical books, all of which are numbered 511.

At this place he finds those books which are "in." The shelf-register kept at that tier will provide him with a list of all the arithmetical books in stock, *whether in or out of circulation*.

12. The key to the library so far as authors and titles are concerned is the Name catalogue on cards (as defined by Cutter), which has been provided for the reader who wishes to be directed to a particular book rather than to a particular subject. It contains cards for:

Author,  
Editor,  
Persons written about,  
Title (when necessary),  
Series,  
Author analyticals,

but not impersonal subject cards.

13. Another key to a part of the collection is an atlas of the world. As it seemed desirable in any case to keep in the book-room an atlas for reference purposes, a suitable one was bought, and, with the object of directing consultants to books upon the several countries, the class marks for history and travel were written upon the maps. But the atlas is not necessary to this scheme of guiding.



A HITHERTO UNRECORDED CONVERSATION BETWEEN DR. WATSON AND MR. HERLOCK SHOLMES.

*Now first set forth by S. T. EWART.*

o o o

IT was not without certain misgivings that I entered our rooms in Baker Street one night late in the Autumn of 1904. For some time, in fact ever since the arrest of Professor Eisenbach—that brain of the criminal octopus which terrorised three continents—my gifted friend had had nothing to occupy him, and I knew from past experience that this resulted in no good. It was with no small sense of relief therefore, that, seeing Sholmes apparently deep in one of his interminable experiments, I crossed over to the mantelpiece and observed that the morphia still remained level with the top of the label on the bottle.

I glanced over at Sholmes, and was about to seat myself, when, without looking up, he said

“Ah! my dear Watson! So you found it a little too difficult, and brought it along here? Ah! well, it may serve to pass the evening. Let me have a look at it.”

Accustomed as I was to his brilliant deductions, amazement held me dumb for a moment.

“Good gracious! Sholmes! How on earth did you guess that?”

“Really now, Watson, I thought I had schooled you better than that. Do you mean to tell me that you cannot see such an absurdly simple train of reasoning as that? But you have brought something, haven't you?”

“Yes. But tell me how you knew.”

“Very well, if you must have it. As a rule, you are most regular in your habits, yet to-night you have returned fully thirty-seven minutes before your usual time. You have come in a cab, for your boots are spotless, and you gave the cabman considerably more than his legal fare, for he went away without a murmur. All this points to a certain haste and excitement on your part. And when one adds to this that you came into the room without knocking and at once crossed over to the mantel-piece, ostensibly to examine the clock but really to look at the morphia-bottle, the case becomes quite clear. Why should you come home so early if you did not have something for me? and why should you be so anxious about the morphia unless your reason was to see whether or not I was in a fit condition to undertake your problem?”

“How absurdly simple!” I exclaimed.

“Oh, of course! of course!” returned Sholmes, a faint look of annoyance appearing on his keen features. “Everything *is* simple when

it has been explained. A minute ago you were lost in wonder, and now you say 'how absurdly simple.' However, let me see what you have."

On my particular chair at the club, I had discovered a fragment of paper, evidently placed so as to attract attention, with the following legend in very bad printing :

p.xv. + 347. *Ill.* 74 *port.* Q. 97. H1174

I had at first treated it as of no importance, but on examining it more closely, a sudden thought that it had a more dreadful significance than was apparent, crossed my mind. I had helped Sholmes in many of his cases, and several times my name had crept into the public press. What could be more likely than that some band of criminals should have harboured revenge, and have decided on this method of conveying to me the message of my doom? However, I had been unable to find any clue as to its contents, and so had brought it along to my friend Sholmes, in the hope that with his mighty intellect he might solve the riddle.

I handed the slip to him, and told him of my suspicions. It was a yellowish piece of paper with ragged edges; its other features I have already described.

Sholmes took it, and examined it carefully through a lense; then detached a minute portion of the paper and tested it chemically. He then sat down in his chair and looked at the inscription long and earnestly. At last he spoke.

"This is a most curious thing, Watson. Several facts become obvious—for example I can see this has been torn from a larger sheet of paper by a man of about fifty-three, stout, bald-headed, and wearing spats—but the meaning of the print seems cryptic."

He paused, then burst into a violent fit of laughter!

"I have it!" he cried. "Why, it's as clear as daylight! Oh, Watson, you'll be the death of me yet! Just listen to the true story of your vindictive criminals."

He paused to settle himself into the well-known *pons asinorum* attitude, and then continued.

"When one gets a hint as to the inner significance of this little slip of paper, a delightful vista opens up before the mind's eye. This is no murderer's message, Watson, but a fragment from the diary of a doctor!

"Cannot you picture an elderly, benevolent looking practitioner with the outward peculiarities I mentioned a short time ago? He is methodical, intensely methodical, for not only does he keep a complete record of each of his patients, but he actually prints that record, probably with a small hand press. Let us examine his entry. 'P. xv. + 347' evidently denotes the patient: Patient 347 in class 15. What class 15 may be we cannot ascertain, but we may be confident that the patient is really unwell, for is not '*Ill.*' printed in italic type. In fact, he is evidently so near death's door that our doctor has forsaken the ordinary pharmacopœia and fallen back on good '74 port. It seems,

however, that even that generous wine has failed to achieve its purpose, and our doctor queries ('Q.') the advisability of trying a more virulent brand such as '97.

"From the remainder several conclusions——"

At this moment we were interrupted by the door opening suddenly and disclosing to our view a portly apparition.

"Good Lord!" murmured Sholmes, "bald!"

"About fifty-three!!" said I.

"Stout!!!"

"And wearing spats!!!!"

"I hope you will pardon this intrusion, gentlemen," said the apparition, but I mislaid a rather important note to-night at the club, and as I was told that Dr. Watson had used the seat I vacated, I ascertained his address on the chance that he might help me."

"Was this your note?" inquired Sholmes holding out the paper.

"Yes! Yes! That's it! Oh, what a relief!" panted our visitor.

"Perhaps," suggested Sholmes, persuasively, "as we have been able to return your note, you will have no objection to explaining its meaning to us?" As he spoke, Sholmes glanced over at me with a look of triumph in his eye, and I knew that all he wanted was corroboration of his deductions.

"With pleasure, gentlemen," said the visitor. "I promised my wife to bring her a book from the library, and to save the trouble of writing, I tore the call mark of the one she wanted from the catalogue. When I found I had lost the number, I was almost too afraid to go home."

"But," shouted Sholmes, pointing to the slip, "what does all that mean?"

"Why! don't you know Mr. Sholmes?" and the old gentleman seemed to get even stouter with pride, "why it means that the book has fifteen pages of prefatory matter and 347 pages of text; that it is illustrated, and contains 74 portraits; that it is a quarto; and that it was published in 1897. It's all so absurdly simple! 'H1174' is the——"

But Sholmes had rushed to the mantelpiece, and was busy injecting morphia.



## PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS (EXTENSION) BILL.

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**A**LTHOUGH it was ultimately withdrawn it is well to place on record the proposed Bill, which, carried through to an Act, would have materially affected library interests in the counties.

We cannot do better than quote from *The Times* report, March 23rd, of proceedings in the House of Lords :—

“LORD JAMES OF HEREFORD, in moving the second reading of this Bill said its object was to extend to counties the Public Libraries Acts, the operation of which was confined to urban districts. He failed to see why counties should be deprived of the benefits of Acts which most people agreed worked so satisfactorily in urban districts. The Bill proposed that the county council districts should be the library districts, and that the library authority should be the county council. The rate to be levied was not to be more than a penny in the pound. His noble friend Lord Carrington, representing the Local Government Board, had suggested that the resolution of the county council should be ratified by the ratepayers generally before it was put into operation. He would have no objection to accepting such an amendment in committee on the Bill.”

After various noble Lords had expressed views, more or less adverse, Lord James withdrew the Bill.



## OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN LIBRARY APPOINTMENTS.

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**W**E are printing an account of the proceedings of the Southend-on-Sea Town Council which took place on March 20th, in order to give our readers some idea of the regrettable incidents which have occurred in connection with a large number of recent library appointments. Many London librarians and members of committees know about these episodes, but in the country, as a rule, little is heard about proceedings which are not only disgraceful in themselves, but which threaten, if persisted in, to discredit the library profession in this country. A number of these proceedings can be traced to commercial sources, others are less certain, but all of them are pitiful in the extreme, and display an amount of venom and ill-feeling which is astounding to any normal mind. It is not necessary at this stage to discuss the previous efforts which have been made to discredit librarians who have been candidates for appointments, but we print this quotation from a Southend paper as an example of the libellous circularizing referred to :—

## "ELECTION OF A LIBRARIAN.

The Committee reported that, in response to their advertisements, they have received 95 applications. Six of the candidates were selected for a personal interview with the Committee, and, as a result, three gentlemen, all of whom had had wide experience in the organization and management of Public Libraries, had been summoned to attend the meeting of the Council in order that a final selection might be made. Councillor Osborn, in referring to this matter, mentioned that an anonymous document had been issued containing statements as to whether the open access or indicator system should be adopted in the working of the library. There were 42 statements, 28 of which he ascertained were untrue, whilst the others were unimportant. That document was, indeed, a slander upon the members of the Public Library Committee, and he wished simply to say that the statements were absolutely untrue. Why such an anonymous document should be issued he was at a loss to understand, and whether it was by a rejected candidate or in the promotion of a business interest he did not know. It was a piece of the sheerest effrontery he had ever met with in public life. He made that public protest against a person having the impertinence to issue a document of that character which was untrue. There was another incident he would like to mention, and that was a statement that one of the candidates who was to come before them was an atheist and unfitted to be the librarian of Southend. He had a strong objection to the importation of any religious test whatever, and he would say that even if the statement was true. He had ascertained that, in relation to the man concerned, the statement was absolutely untrue. Councillor Doody wondered why that matter had been brought up there. Even if there was any truth in it, it did not concern the Council, at the beginning of the 20th century, whatever views of religion a man might hold as long as he did his duty."



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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DEPOSIT stations and a travelling book-wagon have been used with considerable success in Washington County, U.S., and the methods are described by Miss M. L. Titcomb, in the February *Library Journal*, under the title, "How a small library supplies a large number of people with books." The idea, which is an old one, is really worth adopting in many districts in England. It is most useful, not so much in supplying a large number of people with books as in supplying a number of people spread over a large area with books. The deposit stations described by Miss Titcomb consist of "the usual travelling library case and holding about fifty volumes to be returned for renewal every sixty or ninety days, all expenses of transportation, &c., to be paid by the library. We have a blank requiring a certain number of signatures and guarantee of care, &c., but the use of this is often more honoured in the breach than in the observance. If we find that getting it filled is going to stop the putting the books at a certain place, we waive it. The object is to get the books into the country in what we judge to be suitable place and under suitable care, more often in the general store or post-office than

anywhere else. We do not put the stations at a private house unless we can find no one interested in any public place." These ever-changing deposit collections form one solution of the rural library problem, and have already been tried in England with considerable success, as was pointed out by the Bishop of Hereford at the March meeting of the Library Association. The second factor in the system, the book-wagon, is another old idea, and the one used is somewhat similar to that described by Mr. J. D. Brown about twelve years ago. Miss Lutie E. Stearn contributes a paper on "An innovation in library meetings." The innovation is to have library matters discussed by outsiders, and it is stated that this is productive of very lively and interesting meetings. There is a long symposium on the American copyright law.

The *Library Association Record* for February opens with Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme's "Principles of Cataloguing." The paper is chiefly directed against certain rules in the Anglo-American code now in progress. So many points are discussed that it is, unfortunately, impossible to summarize them here, and we can only refer those interested to the pages of the *Record*. The paper read by Mr. Lawrence Inkster before the Cambridge conference of the Library Association also appears in this number. In view of the recent movement in rural and provincial library legislation, the following opinion is of interest: "When we consider the difficulties which beset the provision of libraries in rural districts, we see at once the necessity for a capable central direction, and the county presents itself as a desirable unit of administration, providing, as it necessarily must, a more economical and effective executive than a number of small parish authorities working independently of each other. A system of travelling collections could be easily and inexpensively worked under the direction of the County Council, with the co-operation and advice of the Parish and District Councils. In the larger counties there would, of course, be more than one distributing centre. Populous towns with their own systems of municipal government would, naturally, be left out of this county scheme, but it should be possible for smaller towns, where the product of the library rate is insufficient to carry on a properly equipped library, to take part voluntarily in the county group on the same terms as the villages." Two lists of the best books of 1904 are given; "Literature," by Mr. E. A. Baker; and "Biographies in English," by Henry R. Tedder.

The March number of the *Library Assistant* is an interesting one. Perhaps the most salient item is a remark made by Mr. Geo. E. Roebuck in the course of his paper entitled "The argument against affiliation," referring to the *Library Assistant*: "Our journal is widely spoken of as the only free-thinking organ which British librarianship possesses, the management of which (like the columns) is open to all phases of opinion." This may be a perfectly correct claim, but for our own part, though usually very unassuming, we were under the impression that the columns of the *Library World* were those most open to all phases of opinion. But perhaps Mr. Roebuck has been

unfairly treated by the printer; probably the fourth word in the sentence is a misprint for "wildly." The papers in the number are two on the question of affiliation with the Library Association; one by Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers on "The argument for affiliation," and the other by Mr. Roebuck, quoted above. These papers were written in connection with a general ballot on the question. It may be mentioned that the Assistants' Association, with its usual clear-sightedness, has rejected the affiliation proposal by a majority of twelve, out of a poll in which two-thirds of the members took part.

*Public Libraries* for February is of more interest to American than English readers. The two principal articles are "Classifying and cataloguing public documents," by Mr. W. R. Reinick, and "Books selection and purchase for small libraries," by Miss M. E. Prentiss. This last is concerned with the available American sources, but includes some "hints for book selection," of which the following are samples: "Select books which tend toward development and enrichment of life; See to it that no race, nationality, profession, trade, religious faith, or school of thought, or local custom represented in the constituency is overlooked; Avoid a literary bias; Have a nice regard to proportion and balance." There is also a short account of the origin of the A. L. A. motto—"The best reading for the largest number at the least cost"—by Mr. Dewey.

The January-February *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* contains a long description of the recently formed Wisconsin Library School. Other items are "Madison's new library building"; "English translations of Don Quixote," by Prof. H. B. Lathrop; "As to registration: a plan," by Mrs. C. P. Barnes; "Picture bulletins," by Miss A. C. Moore; Activities of the past year.

In the latest *Blätter für Volksbibliotheken und Lesehallen*, Dr. Hallier writes a long illustrated description of a new form of indicator under the title "Der Schülkesche Katalog-Indikator in der Oeffentlichen Bücherhalle in Hamburg unter Berücksichtigung der englischen Indikatoren." It is the invention of Herr R. Schülke, and consists of a series of little blocks bearing brief catalogue entries on one end and the location or charging numbers on the other. These blocks are grooved to receive the tickets, and are piled in columns as in the "Cotgreave" indicator, but without the dividing partitions, thus forming a sort of adjustable indicator similar to that described by Mr. J. D. Brown in the *Library*, 1896. The article is illustrated, and we notice that several of the blocks and much of the information appeared in the *Library World* for 1899. We do not notice any acknowledgment of this source of information, although Dr. Hallier is quite welcome to the matter selected for his article.





## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

**Ashton-in-Makerfield.**—Work commenced with vigour at the new Public Library on March 19th, when Mr. S. Lamb, the Librarian, and his assistants were kept busy at the lending counter; Mr. T. Price, Chairman of the Committee, helping to supply the demands of the borrowers. The library had, on March 17th, been formally opened by Lord Gerard, who acknowledged the indebtedness of the town to Dr. Carnegie for his gift of £5,843. For the site Ashton has to thank Lord Gerard, who has manifested much interest in the library movement. We have not seen the plan of the interior accommodation, but the exterior is depicted as an attractive building, which is a credit to the architects, Messrs. J. B. & W. Thornley.

**Barbados: Bridgetown.**—In opening the new Public Library buildings, Sir Gilbert Parker, the Governor, gave some interesting particulars of the movement to secure a library for "Little England." Sir Frederic Hodgson, the preceding Governor, conceived the idea of appealing to Dr. Carnegie; £2,500 was asked for, and granted, but subsequently the gift was increased to £4,800, for which sum the building has been completed. Mr. Bowen's work as architect was highly commended.

**Barnard Castle.**—After long delay, the trustees of the Bowes Museum are in a position to complete and beautify this imposing structure, which has been for years a species of white elephant. We are glad to note, among the contemplated improvements, the opening of the library to the public.

**Barry.**—On March 1st, in opening the new Public Library at Barry Dock, the Earl of Plymouth spoke in appreciation of the growth of the library movement, so largely due to Dr. Carnegie's financial assistance. In this case the gift amounted to £8,000. Barry, soon after it became self-governing, determined on having a library, and in 1891 it was decided to adopt the Public Libraries Act. The marvellous growth of Barry is evidenced by the fact that at that time there were but 500 ratepayers, and land, which the writer of this note remembers a dreary waste, is now covered with hundreds of houses; the population is about 30,000, and where was a dismal swamp are great docks and warehouses. Messrs. E. Hutchinson and E. Harding Payne are the architects of the library building.

**Belfast.**—At the annual meeting of the Linen Hall Library, the Librarian, Mr. Frank J. P. Burgoyne reported the introduction of the card catalogue in the lending library, to replace the interleaved catalogue, the adoption of the Dewey decimal system of classification, and the formation of a musical section containing works dealing with the historical and theoretical side of the subject. Great progress was reported in almost every section of the library.

**Bonar-Bridge, N.B.**—Mr. Macdonald, the Librarian, has just issued the returns for the fourth year of the working of the Public Library. Through the generosity of Dr. Carnegie, who gives £20 annually for books, there are now over a thousand volumes on the shelves. We mention this as an instance of a useful purpose to which the millionaire, or anyone else, may put his money. *Buildings* are not all that is needed!

**Bristol: Westbury-on-Trym.**—A branch Public Library was opened on March 13th, the ceremony being performed by the Lord Mayor of Bristol. The building is of moderate proportions, with red brick walls and timbered roof, the interior being painted a pleasant shade of green. About 1,200 volumes have already been supplied, and others will speedily follow.

**Crompton.**—*The Building News*, March 9th, gave a view of the selected design for the Public Library (by Mr. Jesse Horsfall, of Manchester) and of the second premiated design, which was sent in by Messrs. Dixon & Potter, King Street, Manchester.

**Dublin: Lower Kevin Street.**—The Librarian's report concerning the Public Library is very satisfactory, the growing demand for scientific books clearly indicating that the students of the adjoining Technical Schools are availing themselves of the facilities for study and reference afforded by the library. A valuable addition to the library was reported in the form of a number of interesting works presented by Mr. T. W. Lyster, M.A., Librarian of the National Library.

**Dunfermline: Townhill.**—The first of the Dunfermline branch libraries has been opened at Townhill, the ceremony being performed by Dr. John Ross, Chairman of the Carnegie Trust, and the occasion being made a popular holiday. The building is a picturesque specimen of the English domestic style, with half-timbered gables, and provides library accommodation for 5,000 volumes. The reference library and reading-room are separated by a glass screen, which can be removed and thus give hall accommodation for about 300 seats. Mr. Peter L. Henderson, of Edinburgh, is the architect.

**Fenton, Staffs.**—The Public Library, erected at a cost of £5,300, was opened on March 7th. Dr. Carnegie gave £5,000, and Mr. W. M. Baker presented the site. The building was designed by Mr. F. R. Lawson, of Fenton, and is well suited for its purpose.

**Glasgow.**—On March 5th, in the City Hall, Mr. F. T. Barrett, City Librarian, delivered his popular lecture on "Some old Glasgow Books in the Mitchell Library." The lecture was illustrated by over a hundred lantern slides of title-pages of books, magazines, and newspapers, and of pictures from these.

**Gorleston.**—We read that the Great Yarmouth Race Committee has given £87 from its profits towards a site for the Public Library. *This is racy news!*

**Gravesend.**—It was unanimously decided, at a recent meeting of the Public Library Committee, not to “black out” any of the contents of the papers in the reading-rooms, as the betting evil was practically non-existent in the library. The freedom of the borough is to be presented to Dr. Carnegie, in acknowledgment of his gift towards the Public Library. We understand this is the first time such an honour has been conferred upon a stranger.

**Grimsby.**—In accordance with the views of the Library Committee, the Town Council have decided that the betting news in the library newspapers should not be “black out.” The “Russianising” of the British Press is evidently a debatable subject.

**Heywood.**—On March 17th, the Mayor opened the new Public Library, a commodious and attractive building designed by Mr. S. B. North and Mr. C. Collas Robbins. From the entrance vestibule access is obtained to an octagonal hall, on the remaining seven sides of which are the entrances to the various departments. The combined news and magazine room is 60-ft. by 24-ft., and is lighted by a range of windows to Wood Street, and also by a top-light. The lending department is capable of being shelved for about 30,000 volumes, and has an ample and commodious counter and public space. The reference library occupies the front right-hand side of the building. Its dimensions are 24-ft. by 17-ft., augmented by bay windows. Occupying a similar position on the opposite side of the building is the ladies’ and gentlemen’s reading-room, of similar dimensions. The juveniles’ reading-room, situated at the rear of the building, completes the public accommodation. Mr. George Chiswell, the Librarian, will, we anticipate, find the arrangements such as he desires. Dr. Carnegie gave the town £6,000 to enable the Council to erect the building, which has cost about £400 in addition.

**Huddersfield: Almondbury.**—Mr. K. F. Campbell, the borough engineer, designed the handsome building opened as a Public Library on February 24th. Sir Thomas Brooke formally opened the library, and acknowledged Dr. Carnegie’s kindness in presenting the money for the building (about £1,500). Sir John Ramsden was the donor of the site.

**Leeds.**—Two important alterations in the rules governing the Leeds Institute Library were made last month. The effect of one is that, on payment of an annual subscription of 5s., students can obtain any book in the library, other than fiction. The other alteration enables subscribers of 15s. to borrow two books at a time, provided one is not fiction.

**Llangollen.**—The Urban District Council having decided to adopt the Libraries Act, a Public Library is likely to follow shortly, when it is to be hoped that the building erected will be of stone and timber, and of low elevation to harmonize with the character of the charming old town, where brick seems somehow wholly out of keeping with the surroundings.



**HACKNEY  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY.**

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Designed by Mr. H. Crouch, A.R.I.B.A.

**London : North Camberwell.**—Mr. C. F. Newcombe is to be congratulated upon the success of the boys' room, which he has been instrumental in opening at the North Camberwell Library. The room is opened at present on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. till 9 p.m., and has an average attendance of over forty.

**London : Hackney.**—Elevation and plans of the Central Public Library are given in *The Building News*, March 16th, and in *The Builder*, March 24th, and, by the courtesy of the publisher of the former paper, we are able to give a copy of the elevation in this journal. Mr. H. Crouch, the architect, has well surmounted the difficulty of planning occasioned by the angular shape of the site, and we believe the building will prove both an ornament to the borough and a convenient home for the library. The entrance hall is placed at the angle; facing the entry is the lending department, the back of the right and left wings are occupied by the book-stacks, the front of the right wing is the newspaper-room, and the children's library is in the left wing. On the first floor is a splendid room for the reference library, also the magazine-room, board-room, and sundry offices.

**Malvern.**—The opening of the new Public Library will take place in May. The site was presented by Sir Henry Grey, and generous donations of £5,000 and £3,000 have been received from Dr. Carnegie and Mr. C. W. Dyson Perrins respectively, in aid of the building fund.

**Millom.**—The Public Library Committee has been petitioned as to the over-preponderance of Liberal papers, there being 19 Liberal and only 6 Conservative publications in the newspaper-room. The writer of this note is somewhat of an old-fashioned Tory, but fails to see injustice, as, presumably, there are more Radicals than Moderates in Millom! It is, however, to be hoped that wise men of Conservative principles will press for a fairly representative assortment of papers written from their point of view.

**Montrose.**—At the recent meeting of the Public Library Committee, Mr. James Christison, the Librarian, was able to give quite a long list of gifts of books during the past quarter. This is as it should be, and possibly, as public interest is roused, it would be well to attempt the formation of such a society of "Friends of the Library" as we outlined in the *Library World* of November last.

**Newton Abbott.**—The first annual report of the Public Library was issued last month. We are glad to be able to congratulate Mr. William Maddern on the success of the institution under his charge.

**Nottingham.**—Betting news contained in newspapers exhibited in the Public Libraries is now subject to the obliterating roll. The question was decided at a meeting of the City Council on March 5th, when, notwithstanding that the Library Committee had recommended leaving the papers alone, the majority were in favour of the change.

**Paris.**—M. Henry Martin, an accomplished scholar of the Ecole des Chartes, has received the important appointment of administrator of the Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal.

**Patagonia.**—It is a far cry to Patagonia, and one does not expect much library news from the Welsh settlement there, but from a Liverpool correspondent we learn that Miss Morgan, who has been lecturing in Carnarvonshire, is shortly returning to Patagonia, and will take charge of a Public Library now being formed in the Chupat district.

**Richmond, Surrey.**—The Librarian, Mr. A. A. Barkas, has recently issued his important scheme for interesting the children of the borough in the Public Library. It embodies principles already adopted in other districts, but his views are interesting and appropriate, and are calculated to meet with success.

**Stamford.**—The Public Library, recently opened under the chairmanship of Major H. Hart, has secured a further grant from Dr. Carnegie, whose contributions towards this institution now amount to £2,600.

**Walthamstow.**—Mr. G. W. Atkinson, the Chief Librarian, reports satisfactorily of the progress of the Public Library. The figures he quotes prove the continued usefulness of the institution, but there is one item in the statistics which strikes us as being very small, viz., donations in the year. 32 books. Walthamstow is large rather than rich, but we fancy more people would give volumes if they recognized the need.

**Westhoughton.**—The Public Library was formally opened on March 24th, by Mr. G. Grundy, Chairman of the Urban District Council. The sum of £3,500 has been contributed by Dr. Carnegie, and £600 has been raised locally for the purchase of books. A fine lecture hall, with accommodation for 400 seats, is one of the features of the new building.

**Woolwich.**—At the Public Library, Councillor C. H. Grinling, on March 21st, gave an admirable lecture, "Nature and Man's Work in Kent, as illustrated by the Kent Collection in Woolwich Library." Mr. Vincent, who works hard in connection with the Woolwich Anti-quarian Society, presided, and in the course of his remarks observed that, thanks mainly to Councillor Grinling, the Woolwich Library contains the finest collection of Kentish books in the world. We hope that Mr. Grinling's paper will be printed *in extenso*, and that he will send us a copy.

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**Mr. Ernest A. Baker, M.A.,** Chief Librarian at Wallasey, has been appointed Chief Librarian of Woolwich. He was formerly Librarian of the Midland Railway Institute at Derby, and has gained distinction as a bibliographer and in literature.

**Mr. James W. Black** has been appointed an Assistant in Greenock Public Library.

**Mr. William Clay**, of the Stepney Public Libraries, has been appointed Librarian of the Southend Public Library. He has had eleven years' experience in library work, having served in the Public Libraries of Peterborough and Norwich, and, latterly, at Stepney.

**Mr. Wm. J. Harris**, Branch Librarian of Stroud Green Public Library, Hornsey, has been appointed to succeed Mr. E. A. Savage as Chief Librarian at Bromley, Kent.

**Mr. John Minto, M.A.**, Chief Librarian and Curator of the Brighton Public Library and Museum, has been appointed Librarian of the Signet Library, Edinburgh, in succession to the late Mr. John P. Edmond.

**Mr. George S. M'Nairn**, who was for eleven years Librarian in Hawick, and is now Librarian of Motherwell Public Library, was recently presented with an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns, subscribed by the public of Hawick. The address acknowledges the high state of efficiency to which Mr. M'Nairn has brought Hawick Public Library.

**Mr. D. Niven**, who left the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, over a year ago to take up a position on the staff of the Johannesburg Public Library, has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library of Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

**Mr. W. H. Noyle** has been appointed Librarian of the Littlehampton Public Library.

**Mr. Ernest A. Savage**, Chief Librarian of the Bromley Public Libraries, Kent, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the Wallasey Public Libraries in succession to Mr. E. A. Baker, who was recently appointed Chief Librarian at Woolwich.

**Mr. J. W. West**, Assistant at Grimsby Public Library, has been appointed Assistant at King's Norton and Northfield Public Libraries.

**Mr. J. K. Young** has been appointed Librarian of the Jedburgh Public Library.





## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Cantlie (James).** Physical efficiency, a review of the deleterious effects of town life upon the population of Britain, with suggestions for their arrest. Preface by Sir Lauder Brunton... Foreword by Sir Jas. Crichton-Brown. London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1906. 8°, 7½", pp. xxviii. + 216, *illust.* Price 3s. 6d. [No INDEX.]

Chapters on physical efficiency, city and country life, clothing, food, alcohol, infant feeding, exercise, etc.

A series of common-sense observations on faults in modern life which tend to produce physical deterioration, with remedies and criticisms drawn from a wide and close study of modern conditions of life.

**Comrie (John D.), ed.** Black's Medical dictionary. London: A. & C. Black, 1906. 8°, 4½", pp. x. + 856, *illust.* Price 7s. 6d.

This useful book is intended to come midway between the ordinary handbook of domestic medicine and the more technical guides to medical practice. It is just the kind of book required for Public Libraries, being free from some of the objectionable topics which cause librarians to fight shy of medical literature, while its clear expositions and illustrations add greatly to its value. For ordinary domestic purposes its use will be great, and in a new edition we would suggest a thorough revision of the cross-references, which in many cases are wanting.

**Druitt (Herbert).** A Manual of costume as illustrated by monumental brasses. London: Alex. Moring, Ltd., The De La More Press, 1906. 8°, 8¾", pp. xxiv. + 384, *illust.* Price 10s. 6d. net.

English academical, ecclesiastical, military, civilian, legal and female costume as represented on monumental brasses, with full indexes of names, places and subjects.

A most excellent and useful book, covering archæological, biographical and other subjects as well as costume, and valuable for its illustrations, which are generally clear and neat.

**Gardner (Ernest A.)** A Handbook of Greek sculpture. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1903. 8°, 7½", pp. xxviii. + 554, *illustr.* Price 10s.

The history and description of Greek sculpture, from the earliest times to the Græco-Roman period.

Some time ago we noticed Mr. Percy Gardner's admirable handbook of Greek Art, which appeared in Messrs. Macmillan's series of "Handbooks of archæology and antiquities," and now warmly commend this volume to the notice of librarians who have not yet completed their sets of the handbooks. It was originally issued in 1895, and, as now profusely illustrated and improved, forms a valuable text-book for general use and study.

**Grove's** Dictionary of music and musicians. Edited by J. A. Fuller Maitland. Vol. 2. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1906. pp. viii. + 794, *illustr.* Price 21s. net.

Extends from F to Lysberg, and contains some corrections and additions to vol. 1.

This instalment of the valuable re-issue of Grove contains articles on Grétry, Grieg, Handel, Haydn, Liszt and other celebrated musicians, and long descriptive notices of Festivals, Form, Harmony, Instrumentation, Libraries, etc. In this last, allusion might have been made to the fact that practically every municipal library now provides a selection of the best music of all kinds, and there must be thousands of volumes of operatic scores, chamber music, songs, pianoforte pieces, and other varieties circulated among the public by their means. The work bears traces of ample and careful revision, though here and there improvements might be suggested. Surely the name "Jorram" on p. 545 is a misprint for "Iorram"?

**Russell (T. Baron).** A Hundred years hence, the expectations of an optimist. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905. 8°, 8", pp. viii. + 312. Price 6s.

A forecast of the state of society, science, invention, education and religion in the year 2000 A.D.

Mr. Russell is, if we mistake not, the author of a very realistic novel, dealing with life in a draper's shop in South London, and in this "prophecy of the future" he has tried to follow in the long train of authors who, since Lucian's day, have dreamed dreams, evolved imaginary kingdoms, and organized improved states of society. Every Public Library should possess a corner devoted to Utopias of all kinds, and in it Mr. Russell's forecast should certainly find a place.

**White (Gilbert—1720-93).** The Natural history of Selborne. Re-arranged and classified under subjects by Charles Mosley. London: Elliot Stock, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 266, *front.* Price 6s. net.

The Letters forming the book arranged under such groups as Locality and physical features, Meteorology, Geology, Ethnology, Mammals, Birds, Botany, Superstitions etc.

This edition of White, the first of its kind we understand, will be of particular value to the naturalist, and particularly to the ornithologist, as nearly half the contents is devoted to birds. Like Walton's "Angler," White's "Selborne" is usually regarded as a purely literary classic, and this version of Mr. Mosley's is therefore all the more welcome, because of the plethora of such mere "reading" editions.

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NOTE.—The Japan Year Book, noticed in our last number, is published at 64, Great Tower Street, London, as well as at Tokyo.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE March meeting was devoted to the discussion of the paper deferred from February, entitled

#### THE LIBRARIES AND THE COUNTIES,

by Mr. H. Farr, Deputy Librarian, Cardiff Public Libraries. The gathering was a large and important one, owing to a special invitation which had been issued to various prominent educational officials and others to confer with the Library Association on the points raised by Mr Farr's paper. Mr. H. J. Tennant, M.P., presided, and was supported by the Lord Bishop of Hereford (the Right Rev. John Percival), Sir E. H. Verney, Councillor Abbott, of Manchester, Mr. Fovargue, of Eastbourne, and various prominent members of the Library Association. Among those present who were non-members of the Association we observed Dr. Wm. Garnett and Mr. Allen, from the London Education Board; Mr. John Lloyd, late L.C.C., representing the interests of Wales; Dr. M. Walmsley, of the Northampton Institute, Finsbury; and others.

Mr. Farr's paper dealt in a practical and able way with the question of extending the power of adopting the Public Libraries Acts to county councils, and he showed in a conclusive manner the desirability of such a change in the law. He avoided all reference to the details of such a proposal, wisely leaving them to be thrashed out in Parliament or by those in charge of the new Bill, which will probably be drafted as the result of the meeting. Mr. Fovargue moved, and Councillor Abbott seconded, a resolution in favour of giving county councils power to administer the Public Libraries within their areas, which was carried by a very large majority at the end of the meeting.

In the discussion which was raised a number of speakers wandered away from the point at issue, but on the whole the speeches were interesting and suggestive. There was a little divergence of opinion also as to the wisdom of empowering a central body like a

county council to check the enthusiasm of the local parochial areas, but on this it seemed to be forgotten that there must be local administration of the libraries even if there was central control. Some speakers supported the rate limitation being extended to counties, others thought the removal of the rate limitation should apply all round. Mr. Peddie was strongly in favour of Mr. Greenwood's pet idea of grants in aid from the Treasury, a proposal which the late Mr. Gladstone rather deprecated when he opened the St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Library in 1891. Sir E. Verney gave an amusing account of the diplomatic measures found necessary to increase the annual income in the Claydon group of parishes in Buckinghamshire, and Dr. Garnett made some guarded remarks on the question of extending the proposed Act to London. On this point Mr. Herbert Jones, of Kensington, elicited a statement from the chairman that the legislation contemplated would not apply to London.

On the whole, the meeting was a success, and Mr. Tennant and those associated with him in the weary work of library legislation promoted by private members should derive some encouragement and stimulus from the earnest and hearty tone of the gathering.

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The first of the Local Conferences, which the Annual Meeting at Cambridge instructed the Council to arrange for, will be held at Birmingham on Thursday, May 3rd. The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Birmingham will preside. Invitations to be represented at this Conference have been sent to every Library and Educational Authority in a large area round Birmingham.

Resolutions dealing with Public Libraries and Public Education, the extension of the Public Libraries Acts to Counties, and the removal of the limitation of the Library Rate will be submitted. There will probably be two meetings, one in the afternoon and one—open to the general public—in the evening.

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#### THE PSEUDONYMS.

**O**WING to a tactical error on the part of Scribe III., who summoned the members to dine on a day verging on the "end of the month," the attendance of members was meagre in the extreme. Even the chairman was forced by pressure of circumstances to come after "The King" was drunk. But in other respects the Dog Fiend, who was the chairman in question, did not act the dog-in-the-manger by preventing his audience from enjoying their own refreshments. He announced the title of his subject as

#### KEEP OFF THE GRASS,

—a plea for the immediate relaxation of unduly restrictive rules and regulations in Public Libraries. He touched on the hardship of those rules which require lodger and other respectable residents to obtain the guarantee of one or two burghers, and on various points connected

with the issue of borrowers' cards, which in practice were oppressive and unjust. He also spoke of the absurdity of excluding children in charge of parents or other adults from reading-rooms, and generally pleaded for a considerable amount of all-round revision in order to bring Public Library work thoroughly up-to-date. This opening led to a long and interesting discussion on red-tape rules and unnecessary restrictions of all kinds, and it was generally agreed that there were too many high age-limits, too much formality about the issue of tickets and books, too many precautions taken to insure the integrity of the library property, and altogether far too much fuss about red tape and routine, and not half enough encouragement to the 99 per cent. of citizens who were neither rogues nor fools. As one speaker expressed it: "Every library is spending nearly 10 per cent. of its income in the maintenance of registers and checks, on the off-chance of occasionally recovering a five-shilling book." It was also pointed out that even in the worst-managed type of open access library, wherein the losses had been far above the average, such losses had been a mere flea-bite compared to the costly machinery employed to check thefts. So in all kinds of barrier libraries, the annual cost of registration, indicators and the tackle required to work them, annual renewals of tickets, etc., was out of all proportion to the salvage of stock. In other words, it was made perfectly plain that the old-fashioned, suspicious and bureaucratic rules inherited from the early libraries of the 1850-60 period were no longer desirable, and on grounds of real economy and efficiency it was felt to be the time for re-casting them and liberating them from many inconsistencies and defects. The humorous side of the discussion was unconsciously revealed by several speakers, who warmly supported the various plans for amendment—if carried out in some other library than their own! Indeed, Stepping Heavenward, in his ardent desire to be always on the right side whatever happens, admitted that all rules were unduly exacting, and that they would undoubtedly be completely altered for the better—but not in his time! The discussion was somewhat abruptly concluded, owing to an absurd rule which requires places of public entertainment to close at a certain hour.

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The March meeting of the Pseudonyms was presided over by Book Prices Current, who took for his subject—

#### PRE-ADAMITE LIBRARIES,

on which airy foundation he proceeded to construct an extraordinary series of fabrications concerning the books which might have existed before the Flood and anterior to the Creation. Knowing his audience pretty well, he poured out whole strings of fictitious titles of books, which recalled nothing so much as the footnotes to Burton's "Anatomy of Melancholy"; and it was comical to observe the serious air of puzzled comprehension on the faces of the Christian, the Pirate, Orlando Furioso, Tristram Shandy and other experts when the Chair-

man rolled out some artfully concocted titles of books which never existed. His account of Eve's laundry-book, which passed through the hands of Assur-bani-pal to those of Cleopatra, and hence through the possession of the Borgias to that of Mazarin, and so on to the Snuffy Davie celebrated by Scott, was exceedingly explicit and satisfying. The Chairman stated that he had seen fragments of this extraordinary treasure doing service as drum-heads in a German toy shop.

The discussion which followed was extremely diversified, and finally resulted in a competition who should excel the Chairman in knowledge of—obscure bibliography. Rob Roy started the ball by stating that it was notorious in Scotland that one of Mary Stuart's necklaces was made from a pair of Cleopatra's garters, and that Mary collaborated with Pius IV. in compiling the first *Index Librorum Prohibitorum*. The New Lucian supported the latter statement by reference to the fact recorded in Angelo Vita della Marco's *Rhus Coriaria Sardegna*, 1570, illustrated by Fra Angelica, that some of the copies of this Index were bound in sumac-tanned skins from the piggeries in the South Back of the Canongate, Edinburgh. The Christian expressed his surprise that no reference had been made by the Chairman to the exceedingly interesting Audit Books recently found at Tusculorum, and since identified by Dr. Switchbaack as the household accounts of Noah. He quoted portions to show how exceedingly exact was the method of accounts, and suggested that the Library Association should imitate the ancient method of procuring estimates for every proposed expenditure, however small. Orlando Furioso deprecated these allusions to such a capable body as the L.A., especially now that its management was in the hands of business-like people. He went on to show the superficial and one-sided character of the Christian's remarks on the so-called Noah accounts, by citing Professor Doubitsky's analysis of the MS., which showed that in spite of the anticipatory estimates, an adverse balance appeared every year, though frantic efforts were made to conceal it by bogus entries, such as "Shrinkage of Consolidated Funds"—so much, and other well-known book-keeping dodges.

The Pirate declared that he was unable to comprehend the jargon which was being indulged in about prehistoric books and the Library Association. He pointed out that the subject down for discussion on the agenda was "Book Prices which are not current," but instead of this they had heard nothing but a stream of piffle about pigskin, finance, garters, indicators, the licensing of printers, and everything save PRICES. In these circumstances he begged most emphatically to move a vote of censure on the chairman and all who had spoken, and called upon the gentlemen who had not said anything to support his resolution. The non-speakers: "Hear, hear!" At this point a deputation from Paris arrived, and the discussion at once underwent a complete change. It was next morning before the majority of the members got to bed.

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## LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH.

A MEETING of the above was held at the John Rylands Library, Manchester, on Friday, March 30th. Present: The President (Councillor T. C. Abbott) in the chair, and Messrs. Sutton, Goodyear, Vine, Dillon, Kiddle, and Councillors Simpson, Moss, Holt and Edwards (Manchester), Hutt (Liverpool), Sparke (Bolton), Hunt (Bootle), Pomfret (Darwen), Green (Moss Side), Singleton (Accrington), Wilkinson (Rawtenstall), Grindrod (Bolton), Lancaster (St. Helens), Townend (Bury), Ashton (Blackburn), Haines (Liverpool) and McKnight (Chorley), Honorary Secretary.

Councillor Abbott thanked the members for electing him President at the last meeting. The Report of the Council on the Education of Library Assistants in the North-Western District was read, as follows:—

## REPORT ON THE EDUCATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

In June, 1905, the Council appointed a committee to consider the education of library assistants in the North-Western district. The Committee drew up a report, which was presented to the January meeting, and referred to the Council for further consideration, and report to the next meeting. The Council have had the matter before them, and submit the following recommendations to the branch, viz.:—

That it is desirable

- (a) To form an Education Committee of the North-Western Branch to take the place of the Summer School Committee, whose duty it will be to watch over and control (as far as possible) the education of library assistants in the North-Western district.
- (b) That all the educational work of the branch should have as its object the preparation of candidates for librarianship, and for the certificates and diploma of the Library Association.
- (c) That an effort be made to arrange classes in library economy in different centres, in addition to the Summer School of Librarianship.
- (d) That classes in library economy should be established in connection with the Liverpool Technical School, similar to the classes at the Manchester Technical School, and that the Education Committee should take steps to further that object.
- (e) That library assistants who are not able to attend classes be recommended to join the correspondence classes of the Library Association.
- (f) That the Education Committee of the branch should take steps to inform Library Committees and Librarians of the facilities for the education of library assistants in the North-Western district, and urge them to give encouragement and opportunities to their staffs to take advantage of such facilities.

Mr. McKnight, in moving the adoption of the report, said the educational work of the branch, as far as assistants were concerned, previously had consisted of the provision of the Summer School of Librarianship, which was a course of lectures, and a series of visits to libraries, arranged on three successive days in the month of June, annually. The Summer School had done valuable work in inspiring and stimulating students, but it was felt by some that its work was too limited, and not sufficiently complete. Efforts had been made to cover definite ground by arranging lectures on certain divisions of the Library Association examination syllabus—efforts that had only met with partial success. They hoped the suggestions in the report would provide a satisfactory solution, viz., the arrangement of travelling classes in addition to the Summer School. Help ought to be given by Library Committees. Assistants worked too long hours, and it was not to be expected that they would be fit for study when the day's work was finished. He thought the classes at the Technical School would be better attended and more successful, if held in the morning, when the day's work was not so heavy at libraries.

Mr. C. W. Sutton seconded the resolution, and gave some information relating to the classes at the Manchester Technical School, conducted by Mr. Guppy. They had met with a fair amount of success, but many of their assistants were young ladies, who did not seem to be anxious to occupy positions of increased responsibility. He felt every day the desirability of having better trained assistants in libraries.

The President, in supporting the resolution, thought that an additional clause ought to be put in the report, recommending Library Committees to appoint to responsible positions only those who possessed the certificates and diplomas of the Association.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the Council, with the addition of Mr. Cowell, were elected the Education Committee.

Mr. James Hutt, M.A., Librarian of the Liverpool (Lyceum) Library, contributed a paper on "Libraries and Public Opinion," which took nearly an hour to read. Mr. Hutt discussed the articles that have appeared in the Press for the last 150 years, and dealt especially with those that have lately appeared, attacking the Public Libraries, showing that they were unjust, and largely due to prejudice and the failure of the writers to make the necessary preliminary inquiries. He went on to show that an ideal should be set before the public as regards the Public Library, viz., the general culture of the whole community, and pointed out how far, in his estimation this had been attained, and how far the libraries are working towards this end. By such means as school libraries, courses of lectures, co-operation with the National Home Reading Union and University Extension movement, the libraries are doing a good deal, but there is room for further work, and Mr. Hutt mentioned various directions in which this might proceed. He suggested the appointment by the education authorities of the larger towns of a general superintendent of school libraries, improvements and extension of educational work for library assistants and



those seeking employment in libraries, pointing out that, as the library is rapidly becoming an important educational factor, so must libraries keep abreast of the times. Mr. Hutt then turned to the Library Association, and remarked that as a body it might do much towards these ends, especially in the matter of education.

The paper was discussed by the President, Messrs. Vine, Lancaster and others.

It was announced that the next Summer School would be at Liverpool, if it could be arranged, in June, and it was hoped to have a general meeting of the branch in the same district about the same time.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### ‘MANUAL OF LIBRARY ECONOMY.’

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—The above work has been out-of-print for some time, and there has been such a demand for a new and revised edition, that I am compelled to consider the question of re-issuing the book now, instead of in two years' time, as originally contemplated. The object of this letter is to invite suggestions towards a new edition, and especially notes of any kind which will tend to improve it generally. I have decided to cut out a large amount of matter which was written for the special use and information of library committeemen; to eliminate some of the details of minor processes; and also to remove the few controversial points which appear in the first edition. This will allow of considerable extensions of the bibliographical and historical portions, and enable me to make the book a professional manual pure and simple. Suggestions on these lines will be welcomed, and I am sure that students and others who have found the book lacking in any important matters, or inaccurate in any detail, will give me the benefit of their observations and criticisms.

JAMES DUFF BROWN.

*20, St. Mary's Road,  
Islington, London, N.*



## BOOKBINDING : A SUGGESTION.\*

By JOHN W. SINGLETON, *Public Library, Accrington.*

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MOST of you would receive at the recent Annual Conference, a circular illustrating a paper by Mr. Chivers on "Library Bookbinding," in which he describes "an experiment carried out in a large library with a book bound from the sheets in improved binding, and a book purchased in the ordinary way and twice re-bound." The pamphlet in question forms a suitable introduction to my remarks.

In the first place the particular book referred to in the pamphlet as re-bound must have been either badly done or an exceptional case, to need re-binding a second time at the end of nine months. I have had a few hundred books re-bound at Mr. Chivers' and I do not think the proportion requiring a second re-binding is more than 1 in 500, and this in an "open-access" library, where it is supposed that the wear and tear is much heavier in comparison with "closed" libraries. Secondly, the book after being twice re-bound (and over-sewn at the second effort), only lasted six months longer and then was discarded. This is perhaps the best thing that could have happened to it from the librarian's point of view. It had been an expensive purchase—seven shillings and three pence for fifteen months' service of a four shilling book! The other side of the picture is familiar to all of you—five shillings and ninepence bound from the sheets, three years' constant service. Moreover it is a true picture, and often another year may be added to the three.

But is it advisable in the interests of economy to buy large numbers of books ready bound from the sheets at the present rate? I think not! For one reason, the binding is often too good for the book, or rather the paper on which it is printed. In this case more is paid for the binding than need be. For a second reason, very many books, even fairly popular ones, will last from two to three years in the publishers' covers, and a cheap cloth case will then serve to wear them out. By cheap I mean anything up to a shilling. I get books done in cloth at eight pence half-penny for crown 8vos, ten pence half-penny for demy 8vos, and these cheap covers are quite good enough to wear most books out which have been in circulation in the publishers' covers for any length of time.

Again, many of us would like to know what becomes of the amount saved by issuing books to binders in the sheets, though we probably never shall know. It will, I presume, cost about sixpence to bind a new book in cloth, even when large quantities are done. We

\* A Paper read at a Meeting of the North-Western Branch of the Library Association.

can all buy a six shilling book at four shillings, and get it rebound at one shilling and nine pence. Why then should we pay five shillings and nine pence for the same book bound from the sheets? We are paying for a binding which is never put on the book.

This matter is, to my mind, in a very unsatisfactory state. How to remedy it is not a simple matter. I suggest that the Library Association should endeavour to induce the publishers to issue a library edition (a Public Library edition, if you like) of popular books in a library binding, and that librarians should notify the publishers either directly or through their bookseller, of the number of copies required. The publishers need only bind in the library style the number ordered, and would run no risk of having stock left on their hands. Probably I shall be told that the Publishers' Association is too strong for the L. A. to move, and that they would never consent to knock off the cost of the cloth binding (which would not be put on), but would charge *four shillings* for a *six shilling* book, and that they might even want to charge net price for all books. We should therefore be no nearer! To admit the former is to suggest some slight incompetence on the part of the Association, which we, as part of that body, should be the last to do. Let them try first. Let them take a friend, some Dick Swiveller of the Association, and say, "*is the old min friendly?*" and if the old "*min*" (to wit the Publishers' Association) is not friendly we shall be no worse off.

Most libraries cannot afford to buy books bound from the sheets at the present rate. Many of us buy second-hand books and save a good deal more than the difference referred to in Mr. Chivers' pamphlet between the "Ordinary" and the "Improved" method. I, for one, shall continue to patronise the second-hand dealers until such times as we can get more reasonable terms for them ready bound from the sheets.

I should not like it to be thought that I am taking an unfair advantage of Mr. Chivers by criticising the pamphlet in his absence, but when a professional binder prints such a statement I think we, as part of his customers, have the right to say something about it, and I shall be quite willing for Mr. Chivers to make any reply he may deem proper.

I do not suggest that I have put forward a solution of this question, or that it may be done in the course of the afternoon, but, as most of us spend a considerable sum per annum on binding, any proposition which may effect a saving should, I think, at least merit discussion amongst librarians.



THE LIBRARY INVENTORY.

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NOTHING is so provocative of bad language and ill-temper, as the discovery so frequently made in all kinds of establishments, that someone, nobody knows who, has used up the last scrap of some particular supply, such as note-paper, envelopes, or other article. In ordinary households it is bad enough to be "out" of sugar, or soap, or butter, or bread, especially on Sundays, but it is much more annoying and inconvenient in large places of business or libraries. A shortage or even total eclipse of butter can generally be remedied very rapidly by the simple process of buying or borrowing, but articles of stationery, printed forms, and special supplies of numerous kinds, cannot as a rule be replenished without considerable lapse of time. No establishment uses a large number of stock articles of a standardized pattern, but must have its own particular sizes, shapes, headings and qualities, so that any method which will prevent what may be termed an anarchial interregnum in the continuity of stock is worth consideration. Several plans for keeping library supplies and their corresponding inventories have been propounded, but so far, none seems to have been described which is thoroughly effective. A good and simple method of keeping an inventory of supplies, and providing for their automatic renewal, appears to be that used at the Islington Public Libraries, and, with permission, we proceed to describe it. Thin slips on tough paper, are ruled and printed as in the example below :—

PAPER						
Description <i>Foolscap, ruled faint and margin</i>						
Location		<i>4—2.</i>		Sample		<i>359</i>
Date.	Quantity.		Vendor.		Price.	
1908.						
<i>April 6</i>	<i>2 Reams</i>	<i>(A 6)</i>	<i>Wicer</i>	<i>8/6</i>	—	<i>17</i> —
<i>Oct. 20</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>„ (A 59)</i>	<i>„</i>	<i>8/6</i>	—	<i>17</i> —
1907.						
<i>April 15</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>„ (A165)</i>	<i>Nobbs</i>	<i>8/-</i>	—	<i>16</i> —

FRONT OF SLIP.

O			
Date.	Quantity.	Vendor.	Price.

BACK OF SLIP.

As filled in, the specimen slip shows the nature of the supply by the catch word; its particular description, where the stock is kept—namely in cupboard No. 4, shelf 2,—the number of the sample deposited by the contractor; and then, in the columns below; the dates, quantities, order numbers, vendors, prices per ream, and total cost. These slips are written up from the orders or invoices as the articles are received and checked, and are kept in an ordinary card-tray, in alphabetical or classified order, arranged behind the necessary guides.

In addition to recording the quantities and prices of stationery supplies, this form of inventory may be profitably used to keep note of furniture, and all kinds of articles. It is quite a common experience for a librarian to visit some library or other establishment, and to be struck with the appearance of a chair, desk, table, file, or other fitting, and to wish to know the price and vendor before acquiring a similar one for his own institution. Usually, no definite answer can be given—"The price is lumped in the fittings generally"; "The vendor's price-list is lost"; "The prices are all kept at the town hall"; "It was here before I came"; "I don't know," and so on, are examples of the kind of informative reply generally given. Now, if a slip inventory like that described above is kept, and it is not troublesome to maintain, such questions can be answered at once, and a check can be obtained on the quantities used, the fluctuations of prices, and the sources of all kinds of supplies. But this excellent inventory does not seem to prevent ordinary supplies from running out suddenly, and thereby producing undesirable misunderstandings. There are many ways of effecting this, all more or less satisfactory, but none, perhaps, is quite so certain as an actual *material* check upon the running-out of supplies. In addition to the inventory it is necessary to establish an "emergency-

supply" cupboard, safely locked up, and in it to place a small stock of everything which is liable to run out. Thus, if two reams of foolscap arrive, a five-quire packet must be taken from it, separately parcelled up, and deposited in the emergency-supply receptacle. Attached to this emergency bundle, should be a luggage label, or other conspicuous tag, bearing the words "Foolscap, ruled feint, order No. 69, Stock exhausted....." The blank space is for the date when the emergency supply is transferred to the ordinary stock cupboard. What happens, in a well-regulated library is this—the one-and-three-quarter ream of paper is deposited in its usual place, and the emergency supply is locked up in *its* receptacle. In course of time the accessible stock is used up, and the person who removes the last sheet, or the one who next goes, discovers the shortage, and is forced to ask the key-keeper of the emergency-cupboard for the reserved stock. This is produced, the label is dated and put on the librarian's desk, and all responsibility for ordering a fresh supply is instantly and automatically put upon the right shoulders. It is, of course, easy to imagine occasions when this system might break down, but as a rule, the fact that there is a reminder label, and two persons concerned in the abstraction of the last lot, would generally prevent a failure. The reserve stock of different articles will of course depend upon their nature and the time required to replenish them.



## THE LIBRARIAN AS A "HANDY-MAN."



ON several previous occasions the *Library World* has expressed the opinion that a librarian who is expected to perform manifold duties of a very varied nature, is not likely to obtain the very best results for each one of the departments for which he is made responsible. This opinion is widely shared, we believe, by librarians and library authorities generally, throughout the country, and for this reason we desire to remonstrate with the Brighton Library and Museum authorities for once more asking for that almost-impossible-to-be-obtained *rara avis*, a Chief-Librarian-Museum-Curator-Art-Gallery Director in one skin. It is true that occasionally, it is just possible to hit upon a man who can efficiently run libraries, picture exhibitions and museums, and obtain great and equal success for each, but the *rule* is more in the direction of efficiency being found possible in one department only. The Brighton folk expect for a miserable £300 a year, the following qualifications for their tripartite appointment—"A Library training (including knowledge of French and Latin), knowledge as to the nature and classification of Museum exhibits, and of the artistic values of pictures." Furthermore it is required that:—

“The Chief Librarian will exercise general control over the Museums and Art Galleries, and will be directly responsible for the proper classification of the exhibits in the Museum, the arrangement of the works of Art in the Galleries, the inter-working of all Departments, and the carrying out of the duties of the general staff of the establishment. He will be required to acknowledge all donations to the Institutions, and report the same to the following meeting of the Sub-Committee concerned. He will also be required to attend all meetings of the Sub-Committees, record their minutes, and conduct the correspondence relating to the Institution, and further to carry out such other duties as may be from time to time assigned to him by the Library, Museum and Fine Arts Committee.

He will not be permitted to hold any other appointment, but must devote the whole of his time to the performance of his duties.”

The final clause is perhaps unnecessary, as it is difficult to imagine what spare time the lucky candidate will have to devote to anything more remunerative than *sleep*. We suggest to the Brighton Corporation, by way of rounding-off their catalogue of requirements, that among the “other duties as may be from time to time assigned,” it might be wise to make this ubiquitous officer pier-master and manager of the Aquarium at the same stipend! It is generally acknowledged that in nearly every case where libraries, museums and art galleries, or any two of them, are combined under one manager, that as a rule one or more of the departments suffer. The most prosperous museums are those in charge of independent and specially qualified officers, and it is the same with libraries and art-galleries. In cases where the art galleries are forced to depend upon loan collections for their existence and popularity, a librarian-curator has as much as he can do to organize such exhibitions, solicit loans, effect insurances, arrange the exhibits, catalogue them, and in general, give close superintendence to work of a very exacting nature. The library side of the institution, from financial and other reasons, is bound to suffer, and usually does suffer, and the museum side, if there is one, generally degenerates into the contemptible kind of select marine store, usually associated in the popular mind with the average provincial collection. No doubt the Brighton people know their own business best. It is to be hoped they do, but one may question the wisdom of making a combination appointment such as this, when experience is so much against the practice. There are not the same financial reasons at Brighton as exist in places where the library rate has to bear the burden of all the departments, and it appears to us, that the Corporation could well afford to give £250 for an efficient librarian and £250 for a sufficiently good curator, both of whom could make their departments successful and mutually helpful without interfering with each other. We trust that before long, Brighton will see the error of its ways, and as a first reform, will alter its ridiculous system of having a separate committee for each department, each warring with the other for money and precedence, and appoint separate and independent committees for library and art gallery purposes.

## RICHARD GARNETT.

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DR. GARNETT, late Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum, who died in London on April 13th, was one of the most distinguished librarians of his day, and his loss to the profession in Britain will be deeply felt in every circle of the library world. He was undoubtedly the best all-round man in the library profession, being at once a scholar, a gentleman, a practical man of affairs, and a cultured man of letters. His record is so familiar to readers of this magazine, that it is not necessary to do more than recall a few of the more prominent facts of his busy life.

He was born at Lichfield on February 27th, 1835, and was the eldest son of the Rev. Richard Garnett.

In 1851 he joined the British Museum as an assistant in the library, and at that time the number of volumes in the collection was 800,000. In the fifty years of his service the number increased to over 2,000,000. From 1881 to 1890 Dr. Garnett edited the great printed catalogue which had become a necessity, and its completion and supplementing has been regarded as quite an important event in the annals of bibliography. During those nine years there were many important additions to the library, five Caxtons among them, and Dr. Garnett was instrumental in adding also a number of books which were the first printed works in various countries. Among the Spanish books, so acquired, are the first three printed in South America, and there was obtained also the first music that was ever printed in the New World, a sixteenth century work printed in Mexico. Another curious addition was the first book printed in Australasia—the “Life of a Bushranger.” A first edition of another kind, which was among the treasures most valued by Dr. Garnett, was that of the romance of “Amadis de Gaul’e.”

From 1875 to 1899, Dr. Garnett was Superintendent of the Reading Room, and in that capacity, his kindness and helpfulness never failed. In 1890, he became the Keeper of the Printed Books, and his place in the Reading-room was taken by Mr. Fortescue. He was President of the Library Association in 1893; and in 1895 he became C.B. He retired from the British Museum in 1899, and devoted himself to literary work.

Dr. Garnett was the author of poems, essays, professional articles, and he assisted to select and edit the large anthology entitled *The Library of Literature*, 1899, which has since been re-issued. His “Twilight of the Gods” was very successful in 1888, and in 1903-4 he collaborated, with Edmund Gosse, in the well-known and popular “Illustrated Record of English Literature.” His “History of Italian Literature,” is a well-known authority, and his editions of Peacock and other authors are among the best.



Perhaps Dr. Garnett is best known to the present generation of librarians and literary men, as a guide and helper in almost every avenue of study. He could assist in practically every line of research, and his memory for out-of-the-way facts was little short of marvellous. His memory will long be kept green by his many friends and colleagues in the Library Association, who were workers by his side in the work of improving library methods, and raising the public appreciation of the modern Public Library movement.



## QUEER USES OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

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OUR contemporary, *Ideas* of May 5th, contains an amusing column headed "Love in the Library," from which we extract some gems.

The other day the librarian of a certain Public Library reported that, at this season of the year, the newspaper room was invaded by women and girls copying the patterns of hats, blouses, &c., from the ladies' journals, and that some of them even went the length of bringing scissors and materials, for doing the actual work there.

\* \* \* \* \*

I noticed one day, recently, that a certain book in the reference department was constantly and regularly perused, day after day, by a young man and a young woman alternately. They scarcely ever missed putting in an appearance, but their visits never by any chance coincided.

Naturally, my curiosity was aroused, and one day I carefully examined the volume in question. The result was an eye-opener. I discovered that, by the aid of what was evidently a pre-arranged code, the couple had been using the book as a medium of communication with one another; certain letters, words, and even in some cases whole sentences, having been underlined in such a way as to spell out, when strung together, a very passable imitation of a regular love letter.

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One librarian complained ruefully of the damage done to books by people who frequented the institution for the sole purpose, as it seemed, of pressing flowers, ferns, and other botanical specimens, between the leaves of the volumes.

But the most startling statement bearing upon the subject was vouchsafed by an attendant at the British Museum Reading Room. "We used," he said "to have here a regular reader, whose bent seemed to be of a pronouncedly scientific order.

He would spend entire days pouring over books dealing with mechanical devices of the clockwork order. He was also exceedingly keen on the latest developments in chemistry and electricity, and we recalled, after it was too late, that he continually had out the most up-to-date works dealing with the composition and methods of manufacture of the high explosives, such as dynamite, melinite, and the like.

Afterwards we knew why. He was Bourdin, the Anarchist, who was blown to pieces in Greenwich Park by the accidental explosion of a bomb he was carrying."

## LIBRARIES IN FRANCE.

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*The Journal of Education* for last month contained a note of interest on this subject.

"One of the most extraordinary features of the progress of education under the Republic has been the development of libraries for the people. . . . . To be prosperous and happy a community must be governed by a sound and enlightened public opinion, the existence of which can only be assured by schools that teach how to think and libraries that supply the material of thought. The French show an increasing consciousness of the necessity of having libraries to supplement schools. In 1874 France possessed 771 popular libraries. The latest figures available (published December 13th, 1902) inform us that there are 2,991 popular libraries that have accepted State control, in addition to a large number which remain outside it. State control goes invariably with State support. State support takes the form of grants of books, purchased by the Ministry of Public Instruction upon the recommendation of a special committee. Control is exercised by means of inspection, whilst annual reports of the condition and growth of every assisted library must be made to the Minister. A nation that quadruples its libraries in less than thirty years bears valiant witness to its faith in the mission of the book."



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

**Aberystwith.**—The Public Library was declared open, on April 20th, by Mrs. Davies, wife of the member of Parliament for Cardigan. The building has been designed by Mr. W. G. Payton, of Birmingham, and its erection has cost £3,000. It is due to the generosity of Dr. Carnegie that Aberystwith now possesses this library.

**Ashby, Lincs.**—On March 28th, Mrs. F. Chatterton performed the ceremony of opening the Public Library. Dr. Carnegie gave £1,500 towards the cost, and a suitable and attractive building has been erected from the designs of Mr. W. H. Buttrick, of Scunthorpe.

**Beverley.**—The new Public Library, designed by Mr. John Cash, of London, has just been completed. The building is compact, and its internal arrangements seem to answer all requirements. The news-room, lending and reference libraries are on the ground floor, with a lecture-room, committee-rooms and art gallery on the first floor.

**Birmingham.**—Mr. Capel Shaw, who acts as honorary secretary to the Birmingham Shakespeare Memorial Library, reports that the additions to the library during the year number 497, which are of the value of £430, and are in nine languages.

"During the year gifts were received from the Shakespeare Memorial Library Committee, the Mullins bequest, Professor J. Churton Collins, Dr. H. E. Greve and others. In addition to these gifts, numerous works previously presented to the library had been catalogued and made available to the public, including the Forrest collection; play bills to the number of nearly 5,000 of performances of Shakespeare's plays, from 1779 to 1858; and "Romeo and Juliet" (1637), fifth quarto, purchased for £80 by the Shakespeare Memorial Committee and presented by them to the library. It was stated that a copy of this edition was sold during the year for £120."—*Midland Counties Herald*.

**Cheshunt.**—A fine series of drawings and details of the construction of the Public Library, by Mr. J. Myrtle Smith, of Chelsea, the architect, appeared in *The Builders' Journal*, April 25th.

**Colwyn Bay.**—The Public Library Committee, on April 10th, handed over to the Urban District Council the new library, which has been built there through the munificence of Dr. Carnegie, who gave nearly £4,000 to defray the cost of the building. The Rev. J. G. Haworth, who has resided at Colwyn Bay for some years, contributed £350 to the fund for the purchase of the site.

**Drogheda.**—It is very pleasant to record that at the opening of the new Public Library, on April 16th, Cardinal Logue and the Rector of St. Peter's were associated on the platform. The *Irish Times* said:

"The fact that the Rector gave the Cardinal a cordial welcome to his parish, and the further fact that the two Churchmen found themselves in complete agreement as regards two important aspects of education, were symbolic of the purpose of all good libraries. The purpose of a library is to educate, and the fruits of education are sympathy, tolerance and a just and wide outlook on the affairs of life."

**Dublin.**—The Public Libraries Committee has passed the following strong resolution as to the report of the Local Government Board's auditor:—

"That, inasmuch as the portion of the report of the auditor of the Local Government Board as regards library expenditure, by which the public are led to believe the Corporation have unwittingly exceeded their powers, is misleading, and as the statement as to purchase of rare and expensive books is without foundation, and as the whole portion of the report shows absolute ignorance of library requirements, the committee decline to discuss it."

**Erith.**—*The Municipal Journal*, April 13th, contained an illustration of the new Public Library, admirably designed by Mr. W. Egerton. A well-proportioned main hall gives access to the various public rooms, the borrower's corridor facing the entrance."

"To the left of the corridor is the newsroom, 36-ft. by 23-ft., fitted with wall slopes and a stand for 24 newspapers. At the tables there will be accommodation for 24 readers, for whom about 40 periodicals are placed in racks. Time-tables and directories may be consulted at a stand placed in a convenient position near the entrance. The magazine room, 26-ft. by 17-ft., is on the left of the main hall, and has accommodation for 30 readers. It will be supplied with at least 30 magazines and reviews. In a retired position at the back of the building is the reference room. Here will be shelved a few handy reference books. The bulk of the books, however, will be shelved in the stack room, and readers desirous of consulting them will be able to obtain them from an issue counter in the reference room. In the stack room will be shelving for about 20,000 volumes. A juvenile room is situated on the right of the main hall. It has accommodation for 24 readers."

Mr. W. Barton Young, the Librarian, whose portrait appears in the above-mentioned journal, has been energetic in getting matters in order for the opening ceremony, which was performed by his Honour Judge Rentoul on April 7th. Dr. Carnegie's gift amounted to £7,000.

**Glasgow : Springburn.**—The district library, built through the gift of Dr. Carnegie on a site presented by Messrs. Reid, is the eleventh to be completed under the Glasgow Library scheme. The building was formally opened on May 1st, by Bailie O'Hare, M.P., in presence of a large gathering. The library is a handsome structure, treated in the Renaissance style, and covering an area of fully 1,000 square yards. The interior is comfortably and elegantly arranged, and there is accommodation for about 10,000 volumes. The general reading-room is situated to the right of the main entrance, and has sitting accommodation for eighty persons. The architect was Mr. W. B. Whitie, St. Vincent Street.

**Ipswich.**—Mr. Henry Ogle, the Librarian, contributes to the *East Anglian Daily Times* a very long list of gifts and purchases by which the Public Library has recently been enriched. The selection which has been made seems eminently of a useful character.

**Kinross.**—On April 3rd, the lending and reference book departments of the Central Public Library, in High Street, were duly inaugurated. The library starts with 4,000 volumes, and the ample accommodation provided in the large recreation hall, newsroom and museum seems to be much appreciated.

**Larne.**—The formal inauguration of the Public Library took place on April 2nd, Colonel J. M. McCalmont, M.P. for East Antrim, performing the opening ceremony. Mr. N. Fitzsimmons, of Belfast, is the architect, his plans eliciting the warm approval of Dr. Carnegie, who contributed £2,500 towards the erection of the building.

**Leicester.**—Mr. Alderman Payne has been succeeded in the chairmanship of the Public Library Committee by Mr. Councillor W. E. Hincks. The new chief of the department has taken a lively and thoroughly practical interest in its work. This year has brought with it the thirty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the Public Lending Library.

**Leyton.**—One of the libraries erected out of a sum of £8,000 presented by Dr. Carnegie was opened, on April 7th, by Mr. Heather, Chairman of the Leyton Urban Council. The building, which has cost £4,000 to erect, is situated in the Lea Bridge Road, on a site presented by Mr. Henry Jones, and has its reference library and lecture-room on first floor, with accommodation for 10,000 volumes.

**Littlehampton.**—The new Public Library was the subject of an illustration in a recent number of *The Surveyor*. It is a neat little building, with well-planned interior arrangements, designed by Mr. H. Howard, of Littlehampton. The public rooms are on the ground floor, and comprise a news and magazine room, about 33-ft. by 17-ft., a reference library 17-ft. by 17-ft., and a lending library 30-ft. by 20-ft.

The librarian's room and work-room are entered from the lending library, the former being so placed as to be able to have access to all parts of the building. The rooms are divided off by means of glazed lead-light screens and glazed doors.

**London : Chelsea.**—Mr. Quinn, the Librarian, reports very successful working of the recently opened rooms for children in the Public Library. The rooms were opened on the 20th December last, and at once proved very popular, so much so that the second room, which was intended mainly for lectures, has been in constant use since as an extra reading-room. A class of very poor children has been attracted to the room, which is serving an excellent purpose in giving them innocent amusement and encouraging habits of reading. The number of children who use the room for preparing their lessons is also very satisfactory.

**London : Poplar.**—Dr. Carnegie, who gave £15,000 to the establishment of Public Libraries in the Borough of Poplar, has promised to open the new Bromley Central Library, on June 5th next.

**London : Stepney.**—On April 23rd, the Duke of Argyll opened the new Central Reference Library erected in the rear of the Bancroft Road Public Library. The opening ceremony took place in the lecture hall, the Mayor of Stepney, supported by the local members of Parliament, presiding over a large and representative gathering. The chairman of the Libraries Committee paid a warm tribute to the valuable services rendered by their Borough Librarian, Mr. A. Cawthorne, and the Duke of Argyll congratulated Stepney on having such an excellent addition to its public institutions. The new building has cost a sum of £6,000 for structure and furnishing, that amount having been contributed by Dr. Carnegie. In addition to the commodious reference room, the building contains a large lecture hall and a juvenile reading-room.

**London : Westminster.**—The Public Libraries Committee of the Westminster City Council have under consideration the question of the formation of a central reference library, to take the place of the present reference libraries in St. Martin's Lane, Great Smith Street, and Buckingham Palace Road, and the complete reorganization of the staff of the libraries. Although it would be for the public advantage to have the valuable collections of works deposited in some suitable centre, the cost for proper accommodation would be so considerable that, in view of the prospective increase of rates and taxes under the Government's educational policy, the present is hardly a propitious time for the enterprise.

**Manchester.**—The Public Libraries Committee has purchased an album of autograph letters, formerly the property of Mr. John H. Harland, F.S.A., a noted literary man and antiquary, who died in 1868. The album contains unpublished letters from Thomas Carlyle, Charles Dickens, Tom Hood, Thomas Cooper, Sir Robert Peel, and a host of noted men of the Victorian Era.

**Middlesbrough.**—A few years since, the Public Library received a gift of a large and valuable collection of books, mostly on theology and the classics, from an anonymous donor. The death of Mr. William Kelly, of Blackheath, has revealed the fact that it is to that veteran leader among the Plymouth Brethren Middlesbrough owes the generous gift.

In Mr. Baker Hudson's report, as Borough Librarian, recently presented, is a marked increase in the number of books issued, and it is gratifying to note that 90 per cent. of this increase was in classes other than fiction.

**Motherwell, N.B.**—On April 5th, the Public Library was formally opened, the ceremony taking place in presence of a representative gathering presided over by Provost Purdie. The building, for the erection of which Dr. Carnegie generously contributed £12,000, is practically complete, but the lending library is not yet ready for public use. Dr. Hew Morrison, of Edinburgh, represented Dr. Carnegie, and performed the opening ceremony.

**Newbury.**—On May 2nd, the new Public Library, designed by Mr. Lee Vincent in the Elizabethan style, was formally opened by Lady Gull, the wife of Sir Cameron Gull. £2,000 was contributed by Dr. Carnegie towards the building fund.

**Newtyle, N.B.**—The jubilee of the Public Library was celebrated at a meeting on April 11th, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Lunan. Not the least interesting part of the programme was the presentation of a silver salver and purse of sovereigns to Mr. John Jack, the secretary and treasurer, as a token of appreciation of his valuable services to the library since its commencement. Mr. Jack has issued an interesting pamphlet dealing with the origin of the library, and its fifty years' vicissitudes.

**Rawtenstall.**—The opening of the new Public Library is postponed till June. The Librarian is making an effort to obtain for the reference department as large a number as possible of old written or printed documents, notices, music, pamphlets, books, engravings, or sketches of historical or local interest.

**Southport.**—The reference room of the Public Library has been enriched through the generosity of Mr. Samuel Hardman, who has given the magnificent illustrated sale catalogue of the famous art collection of Moris Spitzer, named by French art connoisseurs, and generally admitted to be "the greatest sale of the century." The large folio atlas of plates which accompanies the volumes of the catalogue reproduce many kindred designs in almost every variety of industrial and decorative art. The work is invaluable for the student in the higher technical schools, establishments which are at present making special efforts in the educational advancement of the country. Mr. F. H. Mills, the Librarian, is to be congratulated on this valuable acquisition.

**Stourbridge.**—The Public Library, recently opened, has been erected through the munificence of Dr. Carnegie, who gave £3,000 towards its

erection. Several friends of the library movement, notably Mr. Cecil Harmsworth, M.P., Sir R. B. Martin, have presented valuable series of books, and the Presbyterian Chapel Committee has handed over about 800 volumes. The library will be worked on the open access system, and the juvenile section of the community is well provided for.

**Teddington.**—On April 11th, the long deferred opening of the Public Library took place, the ceremony being performed by Councillor Webber. The beautiful and well-equipped building is another instance of Dr. Carnegie's generosity, he having practically defrayed the whole cost of erection. Mr. C. S. Johnson has been appointed Librarian.

**Westhoughton.**—The early part of last month saw the practical opening of the Public Library, recently completed from the designs of Messrs. Halsall, Tonge and Campbell, of Wigan, the formal opening having taken place on the 24th of the previous month as noted in our last issue. At the opening ceremony Mr. G. L. Campbell said :

“Without geographical exactitude Westhoughton might be considered the centre of the greatest Public Library area in the Empire. Taking Preston in the North and Warrington in the South, Oldham in the East and Liverpool in the West, and including St. Helens, Bolton, and Bootle with their fine institutions, it also compassed the great libraries of Manchester, with its glorious bequest of Rylands, and Wigan, and no similar space of ground in the Empire had such a magnificent collection of books and such excellent arrangements for making them available for public use.”

From the press we learn that though “open,” the library is yet practically without books !

**Workington.**—The Public Library Committee has decided to adopt the plan of blotting out all sporting prophecies and betting news from the papers for three months as an experiment.

**Worksop.**—It has been stated that the Public Library Committee had ordered that certain of Thomas Hardy's books should be burnt as immoral, but Mr. Houghton, the Librarian, states that only one work met with this fiery fate ! A Manchester paper says :—

“The tawdry latter-day novels, dealing with the smart set and the Divorce Court, which appeal frankly to prurient minds, may still be read in Worksop, but the grave studies of human life we owe to Mr. Hardy are banned.”

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**Mr. J. G. Faraday**, Sub-Librarian of the Hornsey Central Library, has been appointed Librarian-in-charge of the Stroud Green Branch, in succession to Mr. W. J. Harris, now of Bromley, Kent.

**Mr. A. Hair** has been appointed Librarian of the Tynemouth Public Library in place of Mr. Tidey, who has recently resigned after having held the position for many years. The services of Mr. Tidey, however, are still retained as a Consultative Librarian.

**Dr. E. Hallier**, of Hamburg, on whose article we commented in our last number, has written to say that he did not obtain his information regarding early forms of indicator from the *Library World* for 1899, but from an intermediate source. The fact remains, however, that the illustrations and descriptions used were originally printed in the *Library World* of the date above mentioned, but if they have been copied without acknowledgment Dr. Hallier must be exonerated.

**Mr. D. W. Herdman**, the recently appointed librarian of Grahamstown Public Library, to the great regret of the citizens, is resigning his position and returning home.

**Mr. T. E. Maw**, Librarian of the Stanley Public Library, King's Lynn, writes to *The Athenæum* :—

"I should like to draw the attention of publishers to the occasional difficulty experienced by librarians and others in indentifying some books which have lost their cover and title-page. In many instances the record of author and title appears on the title page only, the page headings being either the name of parts into which the book is divided and the chapter headings, or chapter headings only. It would be an easy matter to print the name of author and short title at foot of first page of each sheet, near the signature, and thus save either loss of much time or possible loss of identity."

**Mr. E. H. Miller**, who for seven years has been Librarian of the Public Library at Bulawayo, and is well known in the Colony from his intimate connection with scientific bodies, is resigning his position and settling in London.

**Mr. Robert Morris**, who has been connected with the Birkenhead Library for upwards of twenty years, and latterly was in charge of the Branch Library at the North-end, died after a long illness, on April 12th.

**Mr. Robinson**, the Librarian at the West Norwood Branch Library has been appointed Librarian of the Herne Hill Public Library, shortly to be opened.

**Messrs. R. Sanderson** (Bury), **A. F. Hatcher** (West Ham) and **R. G. Williams** (Wallasey), have been appointed Senior Assistants in the Bolton Public Libraries.

**Mr. Fred. Thornsby** has resigned the Librarianship of the Colwyn Bay Public Library upon his appointment of Librarian under the King's Norton Council, Birmingham. Mr. Thornsby's experience in connection with libraries in England and abroad has been of a varied and extensive character he having started and organized three new libraries, and held library appointments in Doncaster, Whitechapel, Abingdon, Sale and on the Continent. **Mr. O. Jones Roberts** succeeds as Librarian at Colwyn Bay.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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WE are always pleased to welcome an addition to the ranks of the library press, especially when, as in the present case, novel features are included. The latest arrival is *Library Work*, published in Minneapolis. It is "a bibliography and digest of current library literature." The number—the first—which lies before us contains twenty-four pages, of which six are filled with gossipy notes, and the remainder contain a bibliography of library literature published in 1905. It is arranged under a series of alphabetical headings, such as "Abbreviations," "Accounts," "Administration," "Annotation,"—and abstracts are given of important articles. One improvement we suggest is the inclusion of articles appearing in the *Library* and *Library Assistant*, at present omitted. The magazine has been established as a means of bringing the work of the H. W. Wilson Company, of Minneapolis, to the attention of libraries, and is "sent free to librarians on request."

The April number of the *Library* is a Shakespeare one. Mr. Sidney Lee opens the ball with his "Notes and additions to the census of copies of the Shakespeare first folio." Since Mr. Lee published his "Census" in 1902—as a supplement to the Oxford facsimile—fourteen additional copies have come under his notice, bringing the total up to 172, and these he describes at length. He evidently has a Yankee faith in the power of the "almighty dollar," for he predicts that at the end of the next twenty-five years, the proportion of copies held by England and America—at present 106 and 61—will be reversed. Mr. G. F. Barwick contributes an interesting article on "Impresas"—combined mottoes and devices—written round one supposed to be the work of Shakespeare. Mr. H. R. Plomer writes on the "Printers of Shakespeare's plays and poems," and his paper, in addition to being most eminently readable, is a valuable addition to Shakespeare literature. A classified bibliography of Shakespeare literature for 1901-05 is supplied by Mr. Arundell Esdaile. Mr. John Ballinger discourses on "Shakespeare and the municipal libraries." He describes one or two of the collections existing in Public Libraries, and supplies a list of the books he considers "should find a place in every Public Library." The remainder of the number includes two reviews by Mr. W. W. Greg, and Elizabeth Lee's usual causerie on foreign literature.

The *Library Association Record* for April is principally occupied by Mr. Richard W. Mould's paper on "Wanted—a classification: a plea for uniformity." This paper includes several novel features; for example, a sentence which begins on page 128 and ends at the foot of page 131; and a series of quotations which begin on page 135 and end on page 145. The scope of Mr. Mould's paper is tremendous, and his

idea of telling us (in six pages) what he isn't going to tell us about, strikes one as being distinctly original. He comes to the conclusion that a scheme of classification superseding all existing ones is wanted, and suggests that the Library Association should undertake the task. The other paper in the number is one on Public Library planning, read by Mr. H. T. Hare before the Cambridge conference last August. We are pleased to note that, unlike some architects, Mr. Hare has no belief in the Great Supervision Bogey. "It is not possible for one person to supervise a library of any size at all from a fixed point, and further it is not necessary that the supervision should be of this nature. In large and simply planned rooms, the public to a great extent supervise themselves, and beyond this the possibility of the controlling eye of the staff being on them is in most cases enough as a supplement."

The April issue of *Public Libraries* is devoted largely to children's reading. Miss Caroline Gleason opens with "A word on picture books, good and bad." She insists upon the importance of providing sane and healthy picture literature to form the earliest mental pabulum of the young. She also tilts valiantly at many published books for children, and librarians with juvenile departments to their libraries would do well to note her objections. A short list of "some good picture books" is appended to the paper. There is also a very good bibliographical paper on "Fairy tales" which will be found useful. Miss Isabel Lawrence writes on "How shall children be led to love good books"; and Miss Lila Van, on "What children read." Other items of the contents are, Miss Rose C. Gymer's "Personal work with children," and a long symposium on "Work with children," contributed to by many important libraries.

Mr. Ernest C. Richardson contributes a paper to the March issue of the *Library Journal* on "The library in the community," in which he lays stress upon the educational idea of the library. There is a good practical article on "The organization of a library in a small town," by Miss Elizabeth D. Rennings, which details the process by which local enthusiasm was fostered and numerous odds overcome. There is also an extract from a paper by W. C. Lane, on opportunities for bibliographical work. From one of the leaders it appears that America is about to follow the lead of the Society of Arts and the Library Association in the matter of standardizing leathers for book-binding.



## LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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**Holberg-litteratur.** Det Deichmanske Bibliothek. Kristiania, 1906. pp. x. + 78. Price 2/6. 400 copies printed.

Mr. Haakon Nyhuus, the well-known Norwegian librarian has issued an admirable bibliography of the works of Ludvig Holberg (1684-1754), best known by his tale entitled Niels Klim, which has been translated as "A journey to the world underground." London, 1742, and "Journey to the world underground, being the subterraneous travels of Niels Klim. From the Latin, London, 1828. This is the prototype of imaginary explorations of the centre of the earth, and seems to be the only work by Holberg translated into English. It is astonishing that this entertaining and suggestive book has not been re-issued in any of the modern series of reprints.

## CATALOGUES.

**Gateshead Public Library.** Catalogue of the Juvenile Section. Compiled by William Wilson, Sub-librarian. 140 pp. 7" x 4½". 1906.

A dictionary catalogue. Entries are fairly full, and there are occasional short annotations. The annotations are somewhat mixed in character and quality. Some are simply transferred sub-titles; some are in this form:

Thirty stories for juveniles, told in choice language, and directed to a moral end.

Which will certainly be very effective in preventing "juveniles" from ever reading this book—even with the sugary bait of a "moral end"; and the remainder are simply written, and addressed to the children themselves, as

DESMOND (G. G.) The stoat pack. 1905.

The stoat is a kind of weasel, and this book contains a story of field life told from that animal's point of view.

The last style is infinitely better, and we only wish there were more specimens of it. The catalogue is lavishly spaced out, and is typographically tasteful.

**Wigan Public Library.** Reference Department. Catalogue of Books. By H. T. Folkard, F.S.A., Librarian. Part seven, P-PIZZ. Pages 2,599-2951. 4to. Wigan, 1905.

In notes to previous parts of this catalogue we have described its salient features, and it will be unnecessary to recapitulate. The undertaking has been in progress for over twenty years, and is beginning to

get near the end. Judging from the increasing size of the parts, it will be necessary to start again at the beginning of the alphabet when Z has been reached. We still think that the separate entry of each article in publications like the "Dictionary of National Biography" and the "Encyclopædia Britannica" is to a large extent an indexing of the obvious. And it is this kind of entry that is responsible for the bulk of the catalogue. For example, on page 2708 there are 21 entries; 13 of these are from the "D.N.B.," leaving 8 that would appear in an ordinary catalogue.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY.

**Library of Congress.** List of Cartularies, principally French, recently added to the Library of Congress, with some earlier accessions. Compiled under the direction of A. P. C. Griffin, chief bibliographer. 30 pp. 4to. 1905.

Arranged under districts, as Amiens, Anjou, Arles, in alphabetical order. No author index.

#### REPORTS.

**Aberdeen:** twenty-first report, 1904-05. Stock 64,051 volumes borrowers 12,131; volumes issued 360,203, last year 311,602. The open shelf accommodation in the reference library has been more than doubled; "this additional accommodation was filled with books largely in demand and likely to be interesting, so that visitors could help themselves without the necessity of filling up application forms. This arrangement has proved exceedingly satisfactory, and is being more and more taken advantage of."

**Acton:** sixth report, 1904-05. Stock 10,889 volumes; borrowers 3,530; volumes issued 122,196 (lending 114,662; reference 7,534). A system of branch delivery stations has been inaugurated.

**Belfast:** seventeenth report, 1905. Stock 46,957 volumes; borrowers 12,293; volumes issued 370,322 (lending 298,417; reference 71,905). Three branches, for which the money has been given by Dr. Carnegie, are in course of organization, and a reading-room has been opened. "The Gas Committee kindly granted the request of the Library Committee for assistance in clearing off a debit balance of £500" on the Ballymacarrett branch.

**Brighton:** 1904-05. Stock (lending) 32,346 volumes; borrowers 22,385; volumes issued 304,509 (lending 287,650; reference, exclusive of open-shelf use, 16,859). The classified catalogue has been completed during the year. Since August last, a bookbinder has been employed upon the premises in cleaning, repairing, re-sewing and numbering any books requiring this attention. "The advantage of

being able to deal promptly and satisfactorily with such a large number [2,534] of volumes is very considerable. Not only is a saving effected in the life of books by having them repaired at once, but popular works are withdrawn from circulation for much shorter periods."

**Columbia, U.S.:** eighth report, 1904-05. Stock 73,045 volumes; borrowers 38,779; volumes issued 353,493. "Factors in the increase of circulation have been the placing of non-fiction as well as fiction in the open-shelf room, and in large cases in the lobby; the regular publication of lists of new books in the daily newspapers; the issue of annotated reference lists of books on timely subjects; the extension of the book-borrowing privilege to persons living outside the district but who have regular business or employment therein, and to temporary residents who deposit the value of books issued; reduction of the age limit in issuing cards to children; picture bulletins, story hours, reading clubs, and talks on timely topics for the children: closer co-operation with the schools, establishment of teacher's special library and study room, lending books in bulk to schools and the establishment of three new additional sub-stations, two of which have already received their first instalments of books. . . . It has been interesting to watch the increased circulation of the classes brought into the open-shelf room. History and travel were brought out about October 1st, and the circulation of this group in October was almost double that of September. This increase kept up throughout the year, even though a selection only of books from this class was kept on open shelves after December. The bringing of the literature classes out caused the circulation in December to be more than three times what it was in September. Books on science and useful arts were brought out in January, and the circulation of these classes was at once more than double that of the previous month." There are many interesting paragraphs in this report dealing with such matters as "A readers' assistant," "Work with schools," "Staff training," and "Use of lecture hall," but our space does not allow us to deal with them.

**Grand Rapids, U.S.:** thirty-fourth report, 1904-05. Stock 66,520 volumes; borrowers 12,472; volumes issued 242,907. The library this year has removed into its new building. "In order that the library might supply the demand for new fiction to a greater extent, without at the same time depleting its book fund and loading its shelves with novels that are unused after a few months, a rental collection was inaugurated. The books are placed on the open shelves in the Registration Room, and none are purchased until one or more copies have been purchased for the regular library collection. When the free copies, usually from one to three, do not satisfy the demand, additional copies are purchased, for which a charge of ten cents per week is made. The books are issued on cards in the usual way, but only one rental book is issued on a card at a time. This, however, may be taken in addition to the two books which may be regularly charged on a card. While the rental idea may seem out of keeping

with the idea of a public library, it certainly protects the book fund and prevents the shelves from becoming stocked with a lot of unused books, after the booming of them has collapsed." By the way, they seem to be able to rope in a particularly docile brand of child out in Grand Rapids. For the purpose of the story hour, an unfurnished room is used, and the children, numbering over 200, "sit on the floor in oriental fashion." We tremble to think what would happen if 200 ordinary English school-children were made to squat oriental fashion. Besides, on the few occasions when we have tried that elegant pose, we have not found it an unmixed blessing: there is cramp.

**London: St. Bride Foundation:** tenth report, 1904-05. Stock 12,253 volumes; borrowers 2,236; volumes issued 84,822. The year has been a successful one, and the issues have made a substantial increase.

**London: Stoke Newington:** fifteenth report, 1904-05. Stock 23,962 volumes; borrowers 4,370; volumes issued 143,232. The library has been removed into its new building, of which several photographs are given.

## MAGAZINES.

**Brooklyn:** *Bulletin*, February, 1906. Classified list of additions.

**Croydon:** *Reader's Index*, March, 1906. The special features are two excellent classified and annotated reading lists on "British Parliament" and "The Making of Modern Europe, 1815-1871." These are both the work of Mr. William A. Peplow, who has already given us some very good examples of this class of work. The customary bibliographical article does not appear this month.

**Darwen:** *Journal*, March, 1906. A classified and briefly annotated list of additions. Brief though the annotations are, a little judicious pruning of non-informative matter would be an advantage. We say this because the notes really are good, and are worth improving.

**Pratt Institute, Brooklyn:** *Monthly Bulletin*, February, 1906. Classified list of additions.

**St. Louis:** *Monthly Bulletin*, March, 1906. Contains an annotated alphabetical reading list on "The Railroad Problem."

**Willesden Green:** *Quarterly Record*, February, 1906. Library notes, additions, and an instalment of the history of Willesden. This number contains an index to the *Record* for 1904-06.

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The Carnegie Institution at Washington, has just issued a remarkable bibliography of the "Writings on American History"

published during 1903. As many as 3,591 entries are contained in this volume, which, however, appears to include numerous critical studies dealing with education, art, and general literature. We even find, under the head of "Social and Economic History," the reprinted addresses delivered at the opening of various Carnegie libraries.—*Athenæum*.



## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE April meeting of the Library Association was held at the London School of Economics, on the 23rd ult., when between thirty and forty members and visitors attended. Mr. L. Inkster, of Battersea, occupied the chair, and the members discussed two papers, one on "Library Stock-taking," by Mr. T. Aldred (Southwark), and one on "Public Libraries and Public Opinion," by Mr. James Hutt, M.A. (Liverpool). The first paper dealt chiefly with such questions as the necessity for stock-taking; closing for the purpose; and methods of continuous checking, and led to a brief but interesting discussion. Mr. Hutt's paper, read by Mr. Purnell, of the London Library, appeared to consist of two parts, the first, a sane, well-written, and admirably-argued account of various journalistic and other references to the library movement, and suggestions for improving the status of municipal libraries, and extending their work and usefulness. The second part might almost have been written by another hand. It pretended to be a righteously-indignant exposure of the Library Association Council and its conduct of the *Record* and annual meetings; the shortcomings of all the existing library journals; and the differences of opinion which exist on the open access question. In reality, this half of the paper was nothing more nor less than a mischievous example of the very kind of ill-advised, uninformed, and bile-stirring controversial paper which the writer affected to denounce. If Mr. Hutt supposes that contributions such as this are going to reform the tone of professional discussions, he is mightily mistaken; a fact which was very soon proved by the subsequent debate. With one solitary exception, every speaker condemned this part of the paper, and united in pointing out its inaccuracies.

## THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINATIONS.

THE number of entries for the Library Association Examinations, 1906, exceeds all previous records by nearly 100 per cent., and establishes the fact that at last, the more intelligent and active assistants have awakened to the value of the professional certificates as aids to advancement. Certain recent advertisements in the *Athenæum* may also have influenced the result, because, when library authorities demand proofs of educational and professional qualifications, it is made plain that in future mere time experience will count for very little in appointments. Consequently, assistants who mean to get on have grasped this fact, and the result is the following excellent list of entries for this year's examination :—

Literary History	...	...	...	8
Bibliography	...	...	...	5
Classification	...	...	...	26
Cataloguing	...	...	...	38
Library Organization	...	...	...	26
Library Administration	...	...	...	57

Total ... 160

The total number of individual candidates is, we believe, over 100 so that some are entered for more than one subject.

The action of a number of leading library authorities in making professional and educational fitness the chief conditions of appointments, is bound to have great influence in raising the status of assistants in libraries, and through them, increasing the efficiency and extending the popularity of every department of library work. The fillip which such action has given to the classes and examinations of the Library Association may be judged by the fact that on this occasion, there are twelve centres in different parts of the country at which examinations are being held. All this reflects great credit upon the Library Association and its Education Committee, who, with the energetic and disinterested co-operation of Mr. H. D. Roberts, the Honorary Secretary, have pulled this work out of a somewhat moribund state into its present active and useful condition. In connection with these examinations it is somewhat disappointing to find the *Library Assistant* publishing a very unworthy sneer at the examiners, and imputing to them designs for which there is not the slightest foundation. On enquiry of a number of candidates who have already sat for some of the subjects, we find that every paper is not only considered fair, but absolutely impartial and practical. The publication of such petty attacks in a journal which professes to represent the interests of library assistants can only have one result, and that is ultimate damage to the existence of the L.A.A. It is often said that this aggressive little society is run by a *clique* of London malcontents, and undoubtedly the charge is justified by the frequent appearance of querulous and unfounded criticisms of the educational work of the Library Association.



It is pleasing to observe, however, that the good sense of a great majority of library assistants enables them to rise superior to such petty schemes of traducement, and the list of entries noted above affords abundant proof of this fact.

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#### NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE quarterly meeting of the Northern Counties Library Association was held in Carlisle on Wednesday, 28th March. The members assembled at Tullie House at 12.30, and were shown over the Library, Museum, and Art Gallery by the principal of Tullie House (Mr. Mc.Intire), Mr. Hope (Curator of the Museum), and Mr. T. Gray (Deputy Librarian). The business meeting was held in the Art Gallery at Tullie House, when the chair was occupied by the President of the Association, Mr. Butler Wood, Chief Librarian of the Bradford Public Free Libraries. A welcome to the Association was extended by the Mayor and Sir Benjamin Scott. Those present included the Rev. J. Christie, Mr. F. P. Dixon, Mr. Thompson Wigham, Mr. Hinds, Mr. Mc.Intire, Mr. T. Gray, Mr. H. G. Steele, Mr. S. Rigg, Mr. S. W. Moore, and Mr. P. Blackwell, Carlisle; Mr. B. Anderton, City Librarian, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Baker Hudson, Middlesbrough; Mr. H. E. Johnston, Gateshead; Hon. Sec.; Mr. Fitz James White, A.R.C.A., Principal of the Gateshead School of Art; Messrs. B. R. Hill, J. Walton, W. H. Gibson, J. Briggs, C. J. Zanetti, W. E. Hurford, Arkle Jude, and W. M. Burnett, Newcastle; Mr. Charlton Deas, Sunderland; Messrs. E. Bailey and R. M. Daniel, South Shields; Mr. J. W. C. Purves, Workington; Messrs. W. Graham and T. Hedly, Gateshead; Miss Stuart, Penrith; and M. R. S. Crossley, Keighley.

It was announced that the next quarterly meeting would be at Harrogate.

A paper, on "Carlisle in Literature." was read by Mr. W. T. Mc.Intire, the Principal of Tullie House.

Mr. Bailey, South Shields, read a paper prepared by Mr. Errington, Sub-Librarian of the South Shields Public Library, on "The proposed new code of cataloguing rules." The writer of the paper argued, in the main, that as the object of a catalogue was to enable those who consulted it to obtain complete and immediate access to the contents of the library, it was better to sacrifice absolute precision to the attainment of this end. Mr. Baker Hudson said if in making a catalogue they remembered that they had the public to serve, and did not try to show how cleverly they could construct a catalogue on what he might call scientific lines they would be on the right side. After some observations from one or two other members the discussion was closed.

A paper on "The value of annotation in catalogues and book lists," prepared by Mr. E. Green, librarian at the Akroyd Park Branch Library, Halifax, was read. The writer of the paper showed that in many cases annotation was indispensable, and that its adoption would increase the educational value of libraries.—In the discussion which took place Mr. Hudson maintained that the catalogue was not the place for annotation, in the first place on the ground of expense: secondly, because a true account of a book could not be given in the so-called two lines, and thirdly, on account of the labour. Mr. Anderton, Mr. Purves, and the President also spoke, the last-named, whilst remarking that there was much to be said in theory for annotation, said the expense would negative the idea.

After the meeting the members had tea in the Art Gallery at the invitation of the Mayor, and subsequently visited the Fraternity, where Chancellor Prescott showed them some of the more interesting volumes in the Dean and Chapter Library. The Cathedral was next visited, under the guidance of Mr. J. H. Martindale, after which the party proceeded to the Castle. At night the members assembled at a smoking concert at the Great Central Hotel, entertainment being contributed to by Mr. E. White, Mr. J. Coates, Mr. T. Johnston, and Mr. A. Cooper, Carlisle; Mr. Gibson and Mr. Briggs, Newcastle; and Mr. Purves, Workington. Mr. D. Munro, Carlisle, played the accompaniment, and the chair was occupied by the President of the Association. During the evening the health of Mr. McIntire was drunk with musical honours, as also that of the Mayor.

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### THE PSEUDONYMS.

QUITE a respectable party assembled at "The Howff," when the Laird came up from the North to read his inimitable paper on

#### THE ANATOMY AND PATHOLOGY OF THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT.

He described the average library assistant as being nothing more or less than a materialized appetite for higher wages, regardless of the value of his qualifications or devotion to duty. Hundreds of assistants in all parts of the country were pressing for more pay, shorter hours, less work, and in return, did not propose to give the public any more service or enhanced learning. He quoted from various examination papers atrocious instances of ignorance on topics of the most elementary kind, and stated that, as a rule, boys were rather worse than girls in minor educational qualifications. Then, as regarded vaulting conceit, based on attainments of the most slender sort, he defied those present to cite any instance of colossal assurance quite equal to that in possession of the young men in London who controlled the destinies of the

Library Assistants Association. Their abounding magnanimity could hardly be measured by a mind less capable than that of Aristophanes. Their kindness in offering a helping hand to the poor old Library Association, after refusing to become affiliated, was most touching, and showed that the aforesaid young men took themselves very seriously. In effect, they said—"L.A., old man, the L.A.A. won't join you, but, by George! we'll stand by you, and save you from utter collapse." Ye Gods! Nevertheless, we must remember the fable of the mouse and the lion. The Laird concluded his paper by a vigorous plea for more professional education and general culture all round.

A lively discussion ensued, in which the qualifications, aspirations and peculiarities of the library assistant were handled from many points of view. Paracelsus thought that part of the discontent which was occasionally voiced in the press, was caused by the irresponsible, ill-educated and cheap lads who were selected to serve the public by careless committees. Although many assistants rose superior to their environment and sought mental improvement in private study, or professional proficiency by means of classes and examinations, at least 90% of them did not exert themselves in the slightest degree. Many of them, who ought to know better, like the dominant party in the L.A.A., not only abstained from all efforts to secure distinction by gaining certificates of professional ability, but tried their best to disparage the whole educational work of the L.A. Others, when seeking appointments, relied upon anything rather than upon substantial evidence of professional ability. The New Lucian thought that all appointments to libraries, especially of seniors, should be given only to persons who possessed professional or very high educational certificates, and cited the examples of Manchester, Islington and other places where such qualifications were demanded. The Antiquary said it was a wise thing for library committees to eliminate the evil effects of influence and jobbery, by insisting upon educational tests even for junior appointments. Something could be made of a well-educated lad or girl, and they could generally be trusted to obtain professional certificates, but the nominees of committeemen were, as a rule, not only uneducated but in other respects unfit. Most of the other speakers combined in an effort to restore the average assistant to his proper level, but whether any good result will be obtained remains to be seen. The best librarians are born, not made, and it will always be doubtful if training and experience have a ghost of a chance against natural ability.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

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## SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARIES.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

DEAR SIR,—May I call attention to a slight error in a recent article on Colonial Libraries from the pen of Mr. J. D. Brown.

The Cape Government have increased their maximum of pound for pound grants from £100 to £150 per annum. This was clearly stated in a slip pasted into my booklet on Public Library Systems which was published just before the House of Assembly passed this new Regulation.

You will be glad to note that the movement for cheaper carriage on books to country subscribers in this country of wide areas and scanty civilization has not ceased. Some twelve months ago my committee raised the whole question, with the aid of our local members of Parliament, who advocated cheaper book carriage in both the Legislative Council and Assembly, apparently without avail. Some loose statements were made as to the alarming losses on postal revenue caused in America by the carriage of library books at reduced rates, but as yet these have not been verified.

I am glad to record that the Cape Government Railways now carry "printed books of a literary nature at half parcels rates," which is a great concession to up-country residents, whether they be book buyers or book borrowers. We are hoping to get a similar concession from the Post Office of half ordinary rates by the library paying out of funds deposited with it by the subscribers, carriage on the books sent from the library to the subscriber, while the subscriber may return his books free of charge to the library.

This plan would ensure the return of books to the library, and would not entail any great alteration of postal rules. All that would be necessary would be an extension of the present free postage of museum specimens addressed to museums so as to include books sent to libraries.

I am, Yours faithfully,

BERTRAM L. DYER. *Librarian.*

*April 16, 1906.*

OPEN ACCESS.  

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*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR.—In a recent number of your journal Montrose is mentioned as one of the places which has adopted the open access system, and as far as I am aware it is the only one in Scotland. The credit of having advocated the application of safe-guarded open access belongs to Rector Strong, of Montrose Academy, who is now Chairman of the Library Committee, and who, at his own expense, made a tour of several of the principal libraries in England, including Croydon, with a view to recommend the best system to the Library Committee. After careful study of the whole question, the committee unanimously agreed to adopt the system. The result has been very gratifying. The popularity of the library is, no doubt, due in a large measure to the fact that the public have been allowed access to the books.

Thinking this may interest your readers, I shall be glad if you insert it in your next issue.

D. S. COLSTEN.



## ACCESSION METHODS; A PLEA FOR STANDARDIZATION.

By ERNEST W. NEESHAM, *Librarian, Public Library, Gainsborough.*

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THERE appeared in the *Library Association Record* some months ago, an article—not very practical—on Accession Methods, and it is with this work that I intend to deal.

Many and varied are the Methods of Accessioning, in vogue in the Public Libraries of to-day. Some no doubt are elaborate, others mediocre, and others again, somewhat crude, and I venture to say that hardly two systems will be found to be alike. I have often thought that it is one of the branches of library work, that could be standardized with advantage. I am quite aware that it has been argued that the standardization of library methods would tend to retard the growth of original ideas, and am prepared to admit that this is true to some extent, but I think the system with which this paper deals, would not suffer to any great extent, were a certain well defined method instituted by the Library Association. To my mind, Mr. Brown in his excellent *Manual of Library Economy*—which I am sure all of us appreciate—deals with and gives the rulings of too many useless Stock Books, etc ; or, perhaps, instead of the word “useless” I might say books that can be done without. What is wanted is a plain system that can be worked without wasting too much of the Librarian’s time, and such being the case, I here set forth a system which I think is admirably suited for any Public Library.

First of all a Stock Book is required, ruled in the following manner so that it will show the history of every book added to the Library, until its withdrawal. I give below the rulings of a book that will answer this purpose.

### VERSO.

Stock No.	Accession No.	Date.	Title.	Author.	Date Pub.
51	2,163	Apl. 6	Essays	Addison	1897
52	2,172	9	Ascent of Man	Drummond	1901
53	2,311	9	Dict. of Statis.	Mulhall	1904

### RECTO.

No. of Vols.	Dept.	From whom purchased or donor.	Price.	Dis.	W.B.	Remarks.
2	Len.	ALBERT GAIT	15 —	33½		Donation.
1	Len.	COUNCILLOR BARLOW	— —	—		
1	Ref.	ALBERT GAIT	10 6	Net.		

Volume VIII. No. 96. June, 1906.

The stock number should not be printed as is done in the Accessions Book, but should be written as required.

I do not see any real advantage in the Accessions Routine Book, a ruling of which is given in the *Manual of Library Economy*, while the above ruling will be found to dispense with the Donation Book.

The next book required is the Accessions Book, a ruling for which is given below. One each of these books is required for the lending and reference libraries.

Accessn. No.	Stock No.	Title.	Author.	Class No.	Remarks.
1 to 50 and so on.					

On receiving a lot of new books, they should first be entered in the Stock Book, and arrangements should be made with the vendor to send his invoice with each lot so that they may be entered in the Stock Book in that order. An exact copy of each invoice is thus procured. After this they are given the progressive Accession No. This is written on the back of the title-page, and it is advisable to have a rubber stamp like the following made; with which to stamp the back of the title-page. The Assistant responsible for the various processes, writes his initials in the spaces provided, and should one of these processes not require executing a tick, as shown in the illustration is simply marked.

<i>Accessions No.</i> .....	
<i>Shelf No.</i> .....	
<i>Accessioned</i> - -	.....
<i>Classified</i> - - -	.....
<i>Cut</i> - - - - -	✓ .....
<i>Stamped</i> - - -	.....
<i>Catalogued</i> - - -	.....

Should the Library be in main classes, of course the stamp would require to be slightly different, while the Accessions Book would have to be split up accordingly, or we would have a broken sequence of numbers. For instance say Class H. is History, we might have 2246 following 2224, in that Class on account of the last-mentioned No. being that of the historical work added before 2246.

It is to be hoped, however, that Public Libraries in the future are not going to neglect this particular branch of administration as has been done in the past. The Stock Book No. should be written in the column provided in the Accessions Book, as this proves useful, for we then get a direct reference from the Accessions Book, to the Stock Book, and the date when any work was added, or the source from whence it came, price, etc., is easily ascertained. As given in the example, 2172 is the number of Drummond's *Ascent of Man*. In the next column of the Accessions Book would be written 52, the number in the Stock Book to which we immediately refer and there find full particulars of that work. The Accessions No. is also written in the column provided in the Stock Book, and we thus get a reference each way. Should a book be withdrawn, it is entered in the Withdrawals Book, a ruling of which it is unnecessary to give here, and the folio number carried in to the appropriate column of the Stock Book. Replacements should always be entered in the Stock Book, being given the next available number, this being written in the remarks column against the old Stock No., thus providing a cross-reference from the old entry to the new. They are of course given the old Accessions No. the new Stock No. being written in the remarks column of the Accession Book.

Books that have been finally withdrawn constitute a great difficulty with the Accessions Book, as any numbers made vacant, should always be appropriated, for if left blank they will play havoc with the charging system later. These works as a rule, do not number many, and personally I think it advisable to procure some paper of the same texture and colour as the Accessions Book, and have it cut into narrow strips, so that these may be neatly pasted over the old entry and the new entry written upon them.

If the Library is closely classified, I think that in preference to Shelf-Lists—unless the latter are going to be put to some special use, as suggested by Mr. Savage in his article in the April issue of the *Library World*—that cards are much better, on account of their being more portable; while they are not liable to congestion like the Shelf-List. Another advantage of keeping them as suggested, is that they form a Card Catalogue of the Library in classified form, and if the printed Catalogue be in Dictionary Form, this might be used to show the contents in classified form. Of course the entries would not be in full, but nevertheless it would serve a purpose. Below I give an example of a shelf-list on cards. It is of course similar to a card catalogue.



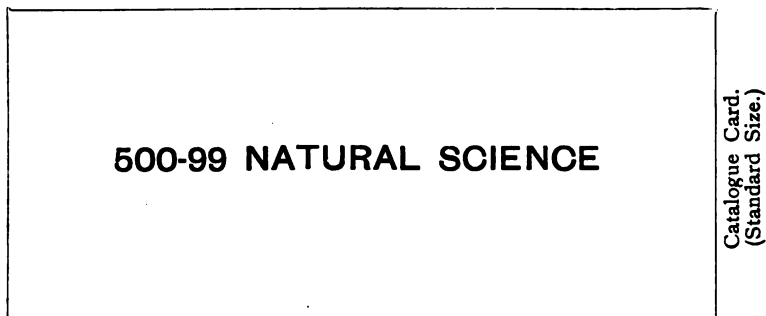


FIG. 1.

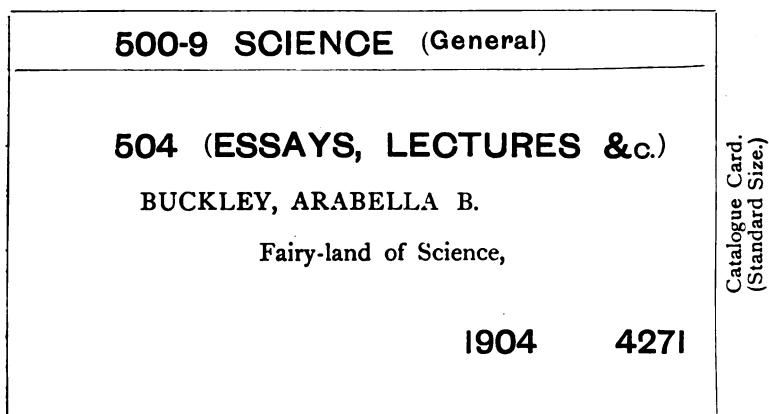


FIG. 2.

Figure 1 represents the card that is placed in front of each main class. It is advisable to have this card of a different colour, while a tab projecting at the top is also advantageous. Figure 2 shows the first division of the Class Science, viz :—500-9 GENERAL. There is no occasion to repeat the head-line 500-9 SCIENCE (General) on any of the cards following, but it is of course necessary to do so in the case of the next division, viz :—510-19 MATHEMATICS.

It will be seen that this could well be used as a card catalogue by the public, and it is better in every way than the ordinary shelf-list.

I have set forth this system, which I think may be worked with success in any library, in the hope that those who peruse it, will derive some benefit, and that it will aid, to some extent, to improve the many inefficient Accession methods that are in use in Public Libraries.

## THE NEW HAMPSTEAD CATALOGUE.

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FOR some time past it has been generally known among librarians that Mr. W. E. Doubleday, the Chief Librarian of the Hampstead Public Libraries, has been engaged upon an annotated catalogue of the books in his central lending library. This work is now before us. It is entitled: *Descriptive catalogue of the books in the lending department of the Central Library*. Its price to ratepayers and borrowers is one shilling, to other persons half-a-crown; and whether for ratepayers or other persons the catalogue is cheap. It catalogues 17,976 books, in xxii. + 509 pp. To make room for the annotations, title entries of poetical works, of essays, drama and prose fiction have been dropped, and, indeed, in the case of other works, have only been retained where the subject heading was not fairly to be gathered from the title. Form entries have been increased.

Mr. Doubleday's work in dictionary cataloguing is so well-known and appreciated that it is unnecessary to describe it in detail. We are chiefly concerned with the annotations, which are such a feature of the catalogue. These descriptions are designed "as 'first aids' to readers requiring some guidance. For this purpose the author's own words have, wherever possible, been preferred; failing this, recognized authorities have been quoted. Where no source is indicated the librarian is responsible."

The annotations are given under the subject entries, which are the chief entries in this catalogue. They are brief and non-critical, or at any rate, contain very little criticism. Those to fictional works are included in the entry, and are printed in italics; thus:—

HENTY. Through the fray. (*Luddite riots.*)

DUDEVANT. Fadette. (*French peasant life; early 19 c.*)

These brief notes have been so judiciously made that they suffice for the purpose in almost every case; but some few examples may be found which suggest that the extreme brevity insisted upon by the compiler is responsible for the omission of essential notes, as:—

VIAUD. Mme. Chrysanthème. (*In French.*)

LYTTON. Paul Clifford. (*Prison life.*)

These notes are scarcely adequate.

Probably the best test of both the catalogue and its descriptive matter will be to discuss the treatment of one subject. Under the main head "Evolution" the books are carefully grouped under sub-heads. The first sub-head is "Aids to study," under which appear two analyticals of essays suggesting courses of reading on the subject. Having introduced the subject in this admirably suggestive way, the compiler provides other heads: General exposition, Child evolution, Cosmic evolution, Criticism and replies, Descent of man, Ethical evolution, Experimental evolution, Geographical evolution, History of evolution, Mental evolution, Philosophy, Religious aspects, and so on. We may perhaps interject one criticism of this grouping.

It is irrational. After beginning admirably with methods of study, and general exposition, the compiler most unreasonably—as it seems to us—begins to arrange his remaining heads, to the number of fifteen, in alphabetical order. Now, such an arrangement is quite useless. Putting ourselves in the place of a reader, we know at once that he does not, as a rule, look under the subject heading for a particular book, which he can find more quickly by turning up the author entry. Nor can we believe that a reader who has forgotten the author's name, and remembers only the subject, will be helped by the alphabetical arrangement, because, as the headings are centred and are in small capitals, it is only after a few minutes' examination that it begins to dawn upon one that the arrangement is really alphabetical. Our contention is that the compiler should have gone on as he began, in logical order, making cosmic evolution follow general expositions, and ethical, religious and social evolutions follow mental evolution. And it would be most distinctly of value to give dates of original publication, and to arrange the entries in order of such dates, the earliest work coming first or last, as may be preferred. We cannot debate the point further. What we plead for is a rational arrangement of entries under subject heads. Such an arrangement violates the rules of both dictionary and of some codes of classed cataloguing, but many rules can be violated without an iota of inconvenience to the public, and with much advantage to the student.

But, apart from the order of the groups, the grouping itself is admirable. Under "General exposition" we find such books as Clodd's "Story of evolution," Darwin's "Descent" and "Origin," Wallace's "Darwinism" and "Natural selection." The following is a typical note:—

WALLACE. Darwinism.

An exposition of the Darwinian theory, embodying a summary of progress during thirty years, a consideration of new arguments, and a defence of evolution, more particularly as first enunciated by Darwin.

This is typical, both as regards style and length of annotation. The result is that, with the help of the grouping, and the references in the notes from book to book, the notes to the works on evolution form an excellent guide to the best that has been written upon the subject. This catalogue, in short, under subject heads, provides a series of guides for readers, which are clear, concise and trustworthy.

We must not conclude without referring to the care which has been taken to fit books to readers. Notes of the following kind appear throughout the catalogue: "An easy introduction," "for general readers," "non-mathematical," "more technical and mathematical than Newcomb (554D)," "requires an elementary knowledge of Euclid, algebra, and the geometry of planes and spheres. For beginners chiefly," and so on.

We must congratulate Mr. Doubleday upon the completion of this catalogue, which is undoubtedly the best general catalogue published in England for several years past.

ERNEST A. SAVAGE.

## HOW I "WENT IN" FOR BIBLIOGRAPHY :

With a series of original observations upon the genus *Examinee*.

By M952.1

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**I**F you were to ask an Astrologer, in all probability he would tell you that the seventh day of May in the year nineteen-hundred-and-six—seven being a Mystic Number—was an extremely lucky one ; one on which you would be likely to succeed in any task you might undertake. Be that as it may, the fact remains that I failed to consult any Expert in astral influences ; and consequently—not being buoyed up by the knowledge that the Pleiads were beaming beneficently upon me, or that Algol was guiding my pen unto brilliancy—the day to me was one of unqualified disaster. This, however, gives me a claim upon the sympathy of my colleagues, and I trust they will bear with me while I recall the true and faithful history of my downfall and offer the result of my observation of the genus *Examinee*.

'Twas on the premier day in the joyous month of May, that first I set my foot on the fatal downward route by "going in" for Bibliography. Ah me ! with what heart-burnings do I recollect that this season of the year is called "the merry month of May." Merry !! "'Tis now the month of May, when merry lads are playing," and so on. You know the song? Well, it has been constantly in my mind for several weeks, and has governed all my actions : I have walked about to it—to the wonderment of the mob—and have even eaten my dinner to its confounded rhythm ! The only grain of comfort it contains is in the allusion to "grass" a couple of lines further on. While not seeking to establish any relationship to Nebuchadnezzar, I cannot help thinking of Kipling's classic lines

" I was an ass when I was at grass  
and that is why I'm here."

The exact definition of "here" will no doubt hereinafter be discovered by the intelligent reader.

But let me return to my mutttons, or, in other words, to the grassy stage of my narrative. I had exactly one week in which to read up my subject—I have not yet discovered what that subject is supposed to comprise—and, appropriately enough in view of the preceding grassy and muttony remarks, I had to compile a bibliography of Lamb. I shall not weary the gentle reader with a description of the anguished hours I spent trying to discover why the early printers are so "wropt in mys'ry" ; neither shall I harrow his soul with an expression of my feelings when I discovered that what made many books valuable was not the excellence of their contents but the all-important fact that on

the seventy-ninth page, two lines from the bottom, a comma was standing on its head! Rather will I pass on to the fatal seventh of May when I and my fellow victims were seated in the torture chamber anxiously awaiting the axe ["axe" = to "ax" a question, being a colloquial form of to "ask"; hence question paper] to put an end to our misery. The end came swiftly and remorselessly, and with an inscrutable smile the Executioner handed me the warrant of my doom.

I took it with a palsied hand: then waited until my eyes condescended to resume their function: and then I read. . . . .

What was this? . . . . "On what date would Easter Monday fall in the capital town of each European country in the year 1560? State your opinion of the effect this would have upon the Licensing Acts and upon the growth of turf on public commons."

"By my halidom!" said I—I'm not sure if these were the exact words—" 'tis time that I did hie myself from hence!" However, I passed on. . . . "Give a biographical sketch of each of the following: Johannes Typenfust, Peter Chaffeur, Wilhelm Buchworm, Sweinheim de Panhard, and Heinrich Coster. Estimate the importance of each in the history of printing, and state which of them illustrates the saying 'a gent in a flowered vest.'"

This time I passed away. . . . .

When I came to, I examined the questions, and it seemed to me that there was a connection between them. Thus the reference to Easter Monday and public commons, was matched by the reference to Heinrich Coster, or the famous Hampstead type. Then there was a distinctly sneering reference to the noble sport of motoring, and this at a time when I would have done anything to have been on a motor! Thus there was a reference to Sweinheim de Panhard—surely a covert allusion to the "road hog"; and another to Peter Chaffeur—commonly pronounced "Shover" from the nature of a large part of his duty. Then the encyclopædic nature of the knowledge required, ranging as it did from antique chronology to equally antique Yankee slang, was not calculated to foster sweet repose and contentment in the mind of an incarcerated victim.

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Let us draw a veil over the subsequent proceedings.

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As will no doubt be gathered from the foregoing, I had a somewhat superabundant amount of leisure during the hours of examination. This time I occupied in pretending to write while really making a minute study of the great family *Examinee*. The following are some of the results of this study.

The genus *Examinee* may roughly be divided into five groups—(1) The Head Scratchers; (2) The Chin Rubbers; (3) The Cornice Gazers; (4) The General Observers; and (5) and last (and least), The Assiduous Writers. There are, of course, a number of minor classes,

such as the Leg Twisters, Hotchers,\* Hand-wringers, Pocket Investigators and the Vacant Staters (the latter mostly feminine), but the five numbered are the chief. In order to assist future searchers in this field, the salient characteristics of each variety are supplied.

The first, the Head Scratchers, are both numerous and easily observed. It will be noticed that when a question paper is placed before one of these, a limb projecting from the upper portion of either the "recto" or "verso" side will be raised and bent at a right-angle, and that the tentacular appendages at the end of this limb will then be applied to gently rubbing or scratching the upper part of the cranium. This action is frequently accompanied by a contraction of the epidermis immediately below and in front of the part to which friction is applied; and occasionally by a windy suspiration of forced breath.

The second, the Chin Rubbers, resemble the first, with the exception that the friction is confined to the lower portion of the maxilla. The action seems to be productive of a pleasurable sensation, and this pleasure seems to be enhanced when the growth of the hair in the affected region exceeds two days in duration. The motion is frequently accompanied by contortions of the orifice (= *Scotice*—a jaw-box) through which the creature imbibes nourishment.

The third variety, the Cornice Gazers, like the first are numerous. From a minute investigation, it seems that to this variety an irresistible attraction lurks in the ceilings and walls of an examination room. Of course this is but natural. They are for ever in search of a Grand Inspiration, and what place more likely to afford this than a flamboyant and perhaps not over clean cornice? It will be noticed that when a Cornice Gazer is engaged in his favourite occupation, he invariably selects a portion of the cornice near a corner, and thereon will gaze steadfastly and with much application. At the same time he will make strenuous efforts to extract nourishment from his pen-holder. Methinks 'twould be a charity were some noble-souled philanthropist to select some quiet refuge for the decrepit—say Bournemouth—and therein build a Home for Senile Cornice Gazers, in which the walls would be all cornice!

The General Observers, our fourth class, are worth studying. But they should have our pity rather than our scorn, for they are afflicted with that peculiarly human failing which makes them take an interest in everything except that on which they are engaged. Poor fellows! They are *so* interested; and so interesting.

Let us hurry on to our last variety, the Assiduous Writers. When one of these is locked into the same room as an examination paper, he descends upon it as doth the bird upon the proverbial bee. He hastily scans it over, secures a pen or two, a quart of ink, and a ream of foolscap, and proceeds to have what he calls "a jolly good shot at it." Sometimes his shooting does not represent the perfection of marksmanship, and in his haste he occasionally puts the muzzle to his own

\* See Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary.

forehead: nevertheless he Writes. His mode of procedure is to curl his left upper limb into a semi-circle on the desk in front of him, and to bury his head in the enclosure thus formed. In this position he remains, except when he uncoils to ask for more foolscap.

I have now sketched briefly the chief characteristics of the Examinee, and have, I believe, supplied such information as will enable each variety to be distinguished without difficulty.

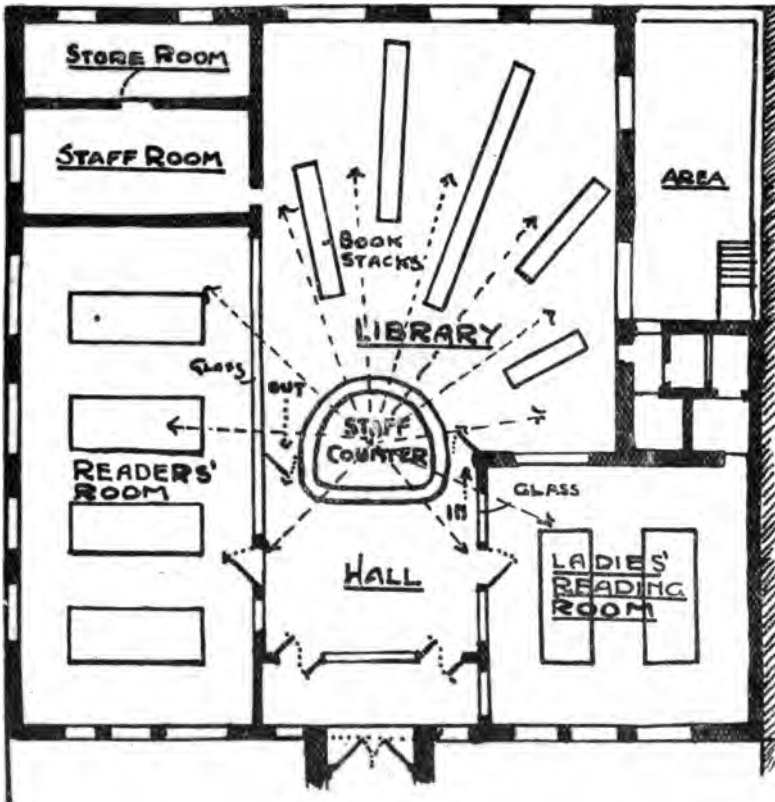
May I venture to suggest in a whisper that the Gentle Reader should amuse himself by exercising his powers of introspection?

But before he does so, let me retreat gracefully and without apparent haste. . . . .



### LIBRARY OVERSIGHT.

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Mr. Charlton Deas, the Librarian of the Public Library at Sunderland, has drawn up the plan on the preceding page as an ideal arrangement for a library, especially for those adopting the open access system.

The point of special importance is the ease with which the eyes of the librarian, or his staff, command each department in public use on the ground floor. In the case of the Sunderland branch libraries, the designs will probably be so arranged as to admit of Mr. Deas' plan of the interior. It is of course for a building of one storey, and if a reference room be required, it could be placed at the rear of the left side, in the place now devoted to stores, &c., or on the area at the back of the ladies' room, and in either case be subject to supervision from the librarian's desk. The scheme seems to be appropriate for the desired object. The opinion of librarians is solicited.



## THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THE increasingly important matter of work with schools, is dealt with in the April number of the *Library Journal*. Mr. George T. Clark describes the various "Methods of school circulation of library books." According to him, up to the present, three methods have been developed: (1) "The method having the merit of greatest simplicity is that by which the pupils are sent directly to the library. The teacher assigns a list of books, some or all of which it is desired that the pupils shall read within an allotted time." (2) "The second method is that by which the books are lent to classes on teachers' cards." (3) The third method "is that of classroom libraries," in which small libraries of from 40 to 50 volumes are set apart exclusively for circulation through the classroom. The first method savours of coercion, and the only thing to recommend it is that the child goes to the library and thus acquires the "library habit"; the second, on which the books are taken to the schools through the teacher's requisition is better, but may be described as the method of the velvet glove; the third method of distributing classroom libraries for periods of three months, or longer, is infinitely the best. Mr. Frank B. Cooper asks "Is there a need for instruction in library methods, by the normal schools and universities?" He contends that the library is dependent for its efficiency upon the devotion of its administrators upon the one hand and upon the library sense and dexterity of its patrons upon the other, and answers his question in the affirmative. Miss Linda M. Clatworthy supplies an outline of a library course given to city normal school students. Other shorter items on school work are: "School work of the District of Columbia Public Library"; "Systematic instruction in the use of the library at Grand Rapids"; and "Library and school work in Newark."



The May issue of the *Library Assistant* contains three papers. Mr. Philip C. Bursill writes on the "Treatment of periodical publication"; Mr. Charles Whitwell describes the "Musée Plantin-Moretus" at Antwerp; and Mr. Horace Barlow discusses "Smoking in public libraries." The Assistants Association recently had a meeting at which a number of members were called upon to make five-minute impromptu speeches, upon whatever subjects they might pick, blindfold, from about twenty. Well, Mr. Horace Barlow makes the delicious announcement that here is his "impromptu" upon the subject of smoking! Mr. Barlow was not called upon to deliver an impromptu, and, determined that his midnight oil should not be wasted, he sets it forth here in the material aspect of cold print. As, in order to feel secure, Mr. Barlow must have prepared an impromptu for each of the other nineteen questions, we tremble to think what this must have involved. In this number there appears a gem of epistolary inanity, which we quote as an awful example: "To the Editor of *The Library Assistant*. Dear Sir,—A persistent rumour is circulating that the professional examinations this year, are to be stiffer than those of last year, presumably because the percentage of passes were too high. The rumour could be ignored, were it not that assistants have been in the past, victims of the caprice of the L.A. examining body. Prospective candidates should be prepared. (Signed) Dictum sapienti sap est." To offer an unprejudiced opinion, it seems to us that someone must have been suffering from what is vulgarly known as "blue funk." Really, the editorial board of the *Assistant* should exercise their privilege occasionally.

The second issue of *Northern Notes and Queries* has come to hand, and more than maintains the standard set by the first. The chief items are "Watson, of Cowpen" by J. C. Hodgson, with inset sheet pedigree, "Some East Cumberland corpse or burial roads" by Henry Penfold, and "The Border Haswells" by F. R. N. Haswell.

Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son have commenced to issue a little magazine under the title of the *Bookbuyer and Reader*. It is, of course, chiefly an advertisement, but contains a few other notes. The number before us contains a causerie on current literature, under the title of "A talk about books," and a number of select lists of books offered for sale by the firm.



## LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

**Beverley.**—The new Public Library, to the completion of which we referred last month, has been opened by a debt of £,600 on the purchase of the site. The Mayor, William Sper, generously

come to the rescue by an offer of £520, leaving only £80 to be collected. It will be remembered that Beverley owes its library to Mr. Champney, a well-known resident, who has given not only the building, but, in addition, some 3,000 books.

The library, not yet formally opened, is being organized by Mr. Lockwood Huntley, the appointed Librarian, who is well fitted for the post by his long experience in York and his love of matters appertaining to the broad county.

**Birkdale.**—Without being in any way approached by the Librarian, the Public Library Committee have, in appreciation of services rendered in the organization of the library, increased the salary of Mr. Edward Wood, the Librarian, by £26, to be followed by an increase of £16 and an annual increment of £10 for four years.

The Library which was opened by Mr. Hall Caine in December last, commenced with 6,000 volumes, and has now about 2,400 borrowers.

**Blackpool.**—The Town Council has passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Dr. Carnegie for his offer of £15,000 for the erection of a new Central Library.

**Bolton.**—The Town Council at its last meeting decided to levy a 1½d. rate for the Public Libraries during the financial year. This makes an increase of £1,500 over and above the revenue received from a penny rate.

**Brierley Hill.**—Mr. W. E. Hunt, who for many years has given much attention to library matters, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Committee, on May 15th. Mr. J. H. Dudley, the Librarian, finds that the establishment of a special library for children's use is highly appreciated, but necessarily involves the staff in a considerable amount of extra work.

**Cambridge.**—If the report be true, the University Library is to be congratulated on a gift of £5,000 made by the Goldsmith's Company. The gift will be very welcome, for the library is hard pressed to meet its expenses, inflated as they have been by the enlargement of the building and the cost of providing for the proper housing of various gifts. The arranging and cataloguing of the Acton Library, presented by Mr. John Morley, for instance, has cost £1,185, and a further sum of £390 is being expended on it this year, while a permanent addition to the annual expenditure will be required for attendance and maintenance.

**Cheltenham.**—For lack of funds the Public Library Committee have withheld the publication of the annual report this year. There has been an increase of over 6,000 issues in the lending department, and the reference library has been more used than ever before.

**Cork.**—A correspondent of the *Examiner* makes a complaint similar to one we have heard elsewhere :—

“Once the number of a book is given to the assistant that book has got to be taken home, and cannot be returned before the following day. This doesn't look a very serious grievance in print, but constant users of the library will, I think, agree with the writer that it impairs its usefulness in the greatest measure. I can assure you (and I am not alone) that I have gone successive days for a week, and on opening the cover of the book I immediately found that I had read the book previously. It may be said that I have an exceptionally bad memory, but when one has read thousands of books, especially fiction, names do not signify much.”

**Fenton, Staffs.**—In our issue of April, we made brief reference to the new Public Library. We are now able to give a view of the building and a description of its construction and arrangements. The aim of the architect, Mr. F. R. Lawson, of Fenton, to whom we are indebted for the illustration, was to produce a structure, simple, yet attractive in appearance, and suitable for its purpose as a library, an aim which has been admirably attained.



FENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The style of architecture may be described as a very free treatment of English Renaissance. The exterior is of red Accrington brick and white stone—the roofs being covered with brindled tiles—and the architect has relied for effect upon the picturesque grouping of the various parts rather than upon ornament and elaborate detail. A flight of steps leads to the main entrance, and through doors of solid oak, a small vestibule is reached.

The first glimpse obtained on passing into the hall, suffices to show that the economical administration demanded by the exigencies

of a penny rate has been kept in view. The hall, though only large enough to allow the public to conveniently pass to and from the various rooms, is very pleasing. Within the archway over the revolving doors is a beautiful decorative painting in oils, of children sitting at the feet of an allegorical figure of Knowledge, painted and presented by Mr. Gordon M. Forsyth, of Stoke. The lending library is on the left of the entrance. Through the glass screen in which the door is placed, the Librarian from behind the delivery counter, has a full view of the hall and the entrances to various departments. Open bookstacks for 12,000 volumes, are fixed at right angles to the windows and counter for quick service of books. The Librarian's office is at one end of the counter, and communicates with the hall and a private staircase runs from the lending department to the store above. The reference library is placed in the quietest and most secluded part of the building, but it is readily accessible. It is entered from the public space of the lending department, with which it communicates, so that the Librarian at the lending counter may also attend to this and easily supervise it. The general reading room is on the right of the main entrance, and is spacious and lofty to obviate the "stuffiness" so prevalent in public reading rooms. The principal room on the first floor is the lecture room, to seat 100 to 120 persons. Also on the first floor there are a ladies' reading room, committee room, and the store room already referred to. All the railings, balustrades, grates and gas fittings, are executed in wrought iron and they do credit to the taste of Mr. Lawson, the designer.

**Glasgow : Bridgeton.**—The District Public Library was opened on May 17th, by Mr. John S. Templeton. Lord Provost Bilsland presided over a large attendance. The chairman said that was the twelfth district library which had been opened in the city out of a total of eighteen provided in the Corporation scheme.

**Godalming.**—We are sorry to note that the Ratepayers have decided not to adopt the Public Libraries Act, by 656 votes to 436.

**Hull.**—We learn from the *Eastern Morning News* that on May 18th a deputation from the Public Libraries Committee, consisting of Sir James Reckitt, Bart. (Chairman), and others,

“waited upon the Property Committee of the City Corporation to ask that the grant of £100 per annum now paid to them for providing accommodation for the patents should be increased to £200 per annum.

Those patents had increased very considerably. There was now 7,700 volumes of them, and they were increasing at the rate of 150 per annum. They asked the committee to give them £200 per year. Sir James pointed out the advantage to the city of having the patents available for inspection, and, in reply to the Chairman, said that in 1901-02 they were referred to on 1,404 occasions; 1902-3, 1,452; 1903-4, 1,323; 1904-5, 2,029; and 1905-6, 1,501.

The Corporation Committee decided to accede to the request and increase the payment to £200 a year.

**Kelso.**—The formal opening of the Public Library, took place on May 16th, when Dr. Hew Morrison, representing Dr. Carnegie, the donor of £3,500 for the structure, performed the ceremony. The building, designed by Messrs. Peddie & Browne, of Edinburgh, is of an unpretentious and most pleasing exterior, while its library accommodation is equally commendable. In his speech, Dr. Morrison congratulated Kelso on securing the services of a librarian of such outstanding ability as Mr. Lindsay Hilton.

**Liverpool: Lyceum Library.**—The 128th annual report was presented to the proprietors on May 18th. Mr. Leadby Brown, the president, was able to give a satisfactory record of progress, but hoped that increased membership would increase the spending powers of this venerable institution.

**Malvern.**—The inauguration of the new Public Library buildings took place, under the presidency of Sir Henry Foley Grey, on May 17th, in the presence of a goodly number of residents and friends of the library movement. Our readers may remember that Sir H. F. Grey gave the site, and that Dr. Carnegie's gift of £5,000 was supplemented by Mr. C. Perrins' donation of £3,000.

Mr. H. A. Crouch designed the structure which is admirably suited to its purpose. Externally red Hereford bricks and stone dressings have been used and the building is roofed with Coalbrookdale tiles. The internal arrangements provide for the Lending Library, which has accommodation for 20,000 volumes, placed centrally, the News Room (45-ft. by 28-ft.) to the right, and the Reference Room (45-ft. by 25-ft.) to the left. The Librarian's Room (also to be used as a Committee Room) adjoins the Reference Room, with staff and work rooms and a separate "reference store" adjacent. A Lecture Hall (45-ft. by 25-ft.) is also provided. A Children's Room is in the basement, with an independent entrance.

**Mexborough.**—Over one thousand people assembled around the Public Library to do honour to the opening ceremony on May 21st. Mr. Walter Turner, Chairman of the Committee, presided, as was fit, for it has been largely through his influence that the movement was carried to a successful issue, that Mr. F. J. O. Montagu gave the valuable site, and that Dr. Carnegie presented £2,000. Mr. J. H. Kelly, of Wath, performed the unlocking ceremony, and spoke hopefully of the future of the institution. The building, as stated in a previous issue, was designed by Messrs. Deacon & Horsburg, of Liverpool, and seems not only an ornament to the town, but well fitted for library purposes.

**Ottawa, Canada.**—It must have been with more than the usual glow of satisfaction that Dr. Carnegie received the greeting that awaited him at Ottawa, on April 30th, on the occasion of the opening of the new library towards which he contributed £6,000. Sir Stanford Fleming, Chancellor of Queen's University, over which he presided, said to his cl

"On the day you came into the beautiful world in the famous, historical Scottish town of Dunfermline, another boy of tender years was probably playing marbles in the lang-town of Kirkcaldy, a few miles distant. These two met for the first time here in Ottawa, not far from three score and ten years having elapsed. You are now Lord Rector of St. Andrews University, Scotland; the second boy is now, and for thirty-five years has been, Chancellor of Queen's University, Canada."

On arrival at the Public Library, Mr. Ellis, the Mayor, read an address of welcome.

In the course of his reply, Dr. Carnegie said :

"The Public Library is found to be one of the chief agencies for continuing the education of the working masses after they have been compelled to leave school to work for their own support. Instead of being in any sense a revolutionary agency, it is found to be highly conservative of all that is precious; evolution, not revolution, as the best policy for the good of the masses, is the lesson that knowledge inculcates. The more a man knows the less revolutionary he becomes. Our English-speaking race takes to the Public Library. There is hardly a town in Britain which has not adopted the Libraries Act and has its Free Library or system of libraries. In New Zealand the Free Library is rapidly spreading, as it has already spread in Canada. My library secretary informs me we have already given the Dominion sixty library buildings. I hope this number is to be rapidly increased. In the United States we have given 904, and the dear old homeland has accepted 481."

**Paris.**—"We are glad to hear that the French librarians have—somewhat late in the day—established an association to watch over their interests, and foster a friendly feeling among the members. The new body already numbers over 200 members, with M. Deniker, Librarian at the Natural History Museum, as President, and M. Michel, of the Municipal Library at Amiens, and M. Henry Martin, Administrator of the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, as Vice-presidents. M. Sustrac, of the Bibliothèque Sainte Geneviève, is the General Secretary; and the office of the new association, to which we wish all prosperity, is at No. 6, Place du Panthéon, Paris."—*Athenæum*.

**Rawtenstall.**—Mr. Harcourt, M.P., has promised to open the Public Library on the 30th of this month.

**Richmond, Surrey.**—The new reference department of the Public Library was opened on May 16th, by the Mayor (Councillor Sandover), in the presence of a large and appreciative company. Mr. A. A. Barkas, the Borough Librarian, has under his charge nearly 13,000 books appertaining to the reference department, and will find the new building eminently useful. Mr. J. H. Brierley, Borough Surveyor, who designed the structure, was present at the opening, and we noted, with pleasure, the presence of brother librarians—Mr. Turner, of Brentford, and Mr. E. Maynard, of Twickenham.

**Smethwick.**—Last month the scheme for supplying children with tickets enabling them to obtain suitable books from the Public Library came into operation and seems successful, over two hundred scholars having taken advantage of these facilities, the teachers in the schools manifesting special interest in encouraging the children to take up some branch of reading during their spare hours.

**Southport.**—The Public Library reference and magazine room seems, judging by a local correspondent's letter, to be inflicted by the patronage of some person who scribbles his views on religious and educational subjects upon the pages of such publications as *The Nineteenth Century*, *The Contemporary*, and others; *The Hibbert Journal* coming in for an extra share of his ultra-Protestant comments. We hope Mr. Mills will catch the man, for such lunatics do not deserve the privileges of the library.

**Wirksworth.**—The Public Libraries Acts are not yet to be adopted in this town. At a meeting of the ratepayers held early last month, Dr. A. E. Broster in the chair, it was stated that Dr. Carnegie had made an offer of £1,200, and the trustees of the late Mr. Charles Seeds, of Wirksworth, £850 towards a new library, these offers being dependent upon the adoption of the Acts. The voting was two to one against, and the generous offers were therefore declined. The chairman said the people of Wirksworth would regret their decision.

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**Mr. Sydney B. Friend** has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, Grahamstown, South Africa. Mr. Friend has had considerable experience in library matters, and also in the publishing business, in England, Calcutta, Rangoon, and more recently in Maritzburg, Natal.

**Mr. Horace Wensley Kirk**, who for upwards of ten years had been Sub-librarian of the Chetham Library, Manchester, died on April 15th, aged forty-seven years.

**Miss A. Peters** has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, Alloa.

**Mr. W. H. Ransome**, Chief Assistant of the West Norwood Library, has been appointed Librarian and Clerk of the Upper Norwood Public Library.

**Mr. Henry David Roberts**, Consulting Librarian to the Borough of Hackney and previously Chief Librarian of St. Saviour's Public Library, Southwark, has been appointed Librarian of the Brighton Public Library.

**Mr. W. Skelton** has been appointed Librarian of King's Heath Public Library, King's Norton.

**Mr. Abraham Taylor** has received the appointment of Librarian at the Tipton Public Library. Mr. Taylor is a Tipton man and well versed in literature.

**Mr. J. W. West**, from Grimsby, has been appointed Senior Assistant, King's Norton Public Library.

**Mr. H. Woodbine** has been appointed Librarian of the Selly Oak Public Library, King's Norton.

## THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

**Baudelaire** (Charles—1821-1867). Poems, selected and translated from the French, with an introductory study by F. P. Sturm. London: The Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd. [1906]. 8°, 5½", pp. liv. + 139. Price 1s.

A volume of the "Canterbury Poets," containing selections from "The Flowers of evil" (*Fleurs du mal*, 1857), and "Little poems in prose," in which some of the more morbid and objectionable features of Baudelaire's work have been removed.

The introduction is a useful and concise account of the school of decadent poets, symbolists, and morbid erotics to which Baudelaire belonged.

**Besant** (Sir Walter). *Mediæval London*. Vol. 1. Historical and Social. London: A. & C. Black, 1906. 4°, 11¼" pp. x. + 420, *illus.* Price 30s. net.

Survey of London in the reigns of Henry II. to Richard III. (1154-1485) in all that relates to the trade, streets, buildings, furniture, manners, food, sports, literature, disease, crime, &c., during the period.

This instalment of the late Walter Besant's great survey of London is a worthy successor to its predecessors. It deals with a most interesting period of London's history and the illustrations have been carefully selected from manuscript and other sources, so as to give a fairly exact pictorial, as well as purely historical view of the manners and customs of the old city. Altogether the work is one of great value and interest, and when completed will form an enduring monument to the enthusiasm and love for London which Besant possessed in a superlative degree.

**Davidson** (Gladys). Stories from the operas, with short biographies of the composers. London: T. Werner Laurie [1906]. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 292, *ports.* Price 3s. 6d. net.



Twenty stories retold from the libretti of the principal operas of Wagner, Verdi, Mozart, Gounod, Wallace, Bizet, Meyerbeer, Balfe, Auber, etc., with portraits and biographies, of the chief composers.

The plots of operas, when retold in prose in the manner of Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare, make capital reading, and this volume of "The Music Lover's Library" is a good example of such literary paraphrasing.

**Dumas** (Alexandre). The Count of Monte Cristo. London: T. Nelson & Sons [1906]. 8°, 6¼", 2v. Price 4s.

A neat reprint, forming one of Messrs. Nelson's dainty "New Century Library," dividing the romance into two sections: v. 1, "The Château d' If"; v. 2, "The Return."

**The English Catalogue** of books for 1905 . . . issued in the United Kingdom and some of those issued in the United States. London: The Publishers' Circular, Ltd., 1906. 8°, 9½", pp. 302. Price 5s. net.

This valuable library tool contains all the usual features—dictionary catalogue of 1905 publications, list of publications of societies, clubs and in series; and addresses of British and American publishers. In connection with this, it is important to observe that in future, the *Publishers' Circular*, from whose weekly lists this Catalogue is compiled, will issue cumulative monthly lists as well, and thus add considerably to its value as a medium from which librarians can make up their lists of books to be proposed for addition to their libraries.

**Everyman's Library**, edited by Ernest Rhys. London: J. M. Dent & Co., 1906, &c., 8°, 6¾", pp. vary from 200 to over 500. Price 1s. net.

A large and important series of reprints of standard works of which the first hundred volumes have been issued. The selection is drawn from the departments of biography, essays, fiction, history, philosophy, science, travel, poetry, &c., with various translations of classical authors and a group of children's books. In get-up and appearance the books are admirable, and the paper of most of the volumes is strong and thick enough for Public Library purposes. For juvenile libraries, school libraries and for open-shelf collections, the books are eminently suitable, and their size makes them well fitted for the use of the private collector. The only fault we have to find with the collection is that so many of the books selected for publication are overdone, and we should advise Messrs. Dent to choose fresher and less hackneyed books for their next hundred.

**Galton** (Francis) and Edgar Schuster. Noteworthy families (modern science), an index to kinships in near degrees between persons whose achievements are honourable, and have been publicly recorded. Vol. 1 of the publications of the Eugenics Record Office of the University of London. London: John Murray, 1906. 8°, 8½", pp. xlii. + 96. Price 6s. net.

A biographical record, designed to show the hereditary descent of genius based on the relationships and achievements of living fellows of the Royal Society.

This is a practical contribution to the modern science of eugenics or race improvement, and shows clearly the inter-relationships of talented families and the effect in the production of eminent men.

**Graves** (Alfred Perceval). The Irish Song book, with original Irish airs. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905. 8°, 6¼". pp. xxiv. + 188. Price 2s. cloth.

A pocket collection of 119 of the best Irish songs, with the airs (unharmonized) and a suitable introduction. A volume of the New Irish Library.

**Hazlitt** (William). A View of the English stage: or a series of dramatic criticisms. Edited by W. Spencer Jackson. London: George Bell & Sons, 1906. 8°, 8", pp. xxiv. + 358. Price 3s. 6d.

This edition of Hazlitt's scholarly dramatic criticisms forms a volume of his "Works" in "Bohn's Standard Library." Mr. Jackson's notes, confined to the elucidation of textual allusions, add much to the value of the edition.

**Heath** (F. R. and Sidney). Dorchester (Dorset), and its surroundings. With a foreword by Thomas Hardy; and a chapter upon the country walks round Dorchester by the late Henry J. Moule. London: Homeland Association, 1906. 8°, 8", pp. 120, *map*. Price 1s. net.

An addition to the well-informed and up-to-date "Homeland Handbooks." This has been adopted by the Corporation of Dorchester as its official guide.

**Holmes** (Oliver Wendell). The Breakfast table series: the Autocrat; the Professor; and the Poet. London: Thomas Nelson & Sons [1906]. 8°, 7", pp. 252 + 264 + 294, *frontis*. Price 2s.

An exceedingly compact and handy edition in one volume of Holmes's genial Breakfast-Table works. There are over 800 pages in the volume, but it is little more than half-an-inch thick. It is, however, more suited for private, than public library use. It forms an addition to the "New Century Series."

**Home** (Gordon). Normandy: the scenery and romance of its ancient towns. London: J. M. Dent & Co. 1906. 8°, 8½", pp. xv. + 248, *illus*. Price 10s. 6d. net.

A description of the leading features worthy of the attention of visitors to Normandy, accompanied by 24 coloured illustrations and nine line blocks.

A charming book, charmingly illustrated, which revives the memory of pleasant days in hospitable, friendly Northern France. The coloured illustrations add to the value of the volume, but necessarily vary

much in effect, the pictures which appeal most strongly to us, are those of Mont St. Michel (Frontispiece), Chateau Gaillard, Gisors, Falaise and the well-known Tour de la Grosse Horloge at Rouen. Not the least interesting part of the work is the reference to little-known, out-of-the-way towns and villages.

**Homeland Association.** Where to live round London: Southern side. With a chapter upon the geology and subsoils, by W. H. Shrubsole. Edited by Prescott Row. London: Homeland Association, 1905. 8°, 8", pp. 192, *illustr.* Price 1s. net; in cloth, with geological map, 2s. 6d. net.

A convenient guide to the characteristics of each district, arranged alphabetically under places. We notice that among the attractions noted for each place, public libraries are given a place.

**Loveman** (Robert). Songs from a Georgia garden; and echoes from The Gates of Silence. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. 94. Price 5s.

A tasteful and feeling little volume of poems by an American poet.

**Magnus** (Laurie) *Ed.* Documents illustrating Elizabethan poetry by Sir Philip Sidney, George Puttenham and William Webbe. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1906. 8°, 6½", pp. 222. Price 2s. 6d. [NO INDEX].

A volume of the "English Library," containing Sidney's "An Apology for poetry" (1595); Puttenham's "The Art of English poesie" (1588); and Webbe's "A Discourse of English poetry" (1586), edited with a critical and historical introduction by Laurie Magnus.

**Randall-Maciver** (David). Mediæval Rhodesia. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1906. 4°, 11", pp. xvi + 106. *illus., plans.* Price 20s. net.

Investigations of the great ruins at Zimbabwe, Niekerk, &c., in Rhodesia, Africa, prepared at the instance of the British Association and the Rhodes Trustees in 1905.

The author's conclusions are to the effect that these ruins so far from being of the immense antiquity popularly believed, are of comparatively modern origin. Their builders were not an ancient people from the East, and the ruins are entirely of native construction.

**The Roll of Honour for Women.** An Annual biographical record of women of the world who have worked for the public good. London: "Gentlewoman" Offices, 1906. 4°, 10", pp. viii. + 118. *ports.* Price 5s.

Biographical notices of about 350 prominent authors, philanthropists, and women workers, nicely produced with portraits, and well suited for Public Library purposes.

**Swift** (Jonathan). Gulliver's travels, and other works. Exactly reprinted from the first edition; and edited, with some account of Cyrano de Bergerac and of his voyages to the sun and moon, by the late Henry Morley. With a note on the name "Gulliver" by J. P. Gilson, of the British Museum. London: George Routledge & Sons, 1906. 8°, 9", pp. 445, *illustr.* Price 6s. net.

*Contents.*—Gulliver's Travels. A letter from Captain Gulliver to his cousin Sympson, An account of the Court and Empire of Japan. An essay on the fates of clergymen. An essay on modern education. Hints toward an essay on conversation. A letter of advice to a young poet. On the death of Mrs. Johnson [Stella]. Bon mots de Stella.

A volume of the series of "Early Novelists," edited by Mr. E. A. Baker. A handy and tasteful illustrated edition of the famous Travels, eminently suitable for the shelves of either public or private library. The judicious selection given from the lesser known works is calculated to show the versatility and genius of the author. The appendix on Cyrano de Bergerac, from whom Swift no doubt took some of his materials, is also interesting and well worth having.

**Tyler** (F. E.). Peeps into the past: or, bygone city life, traditions, customs, and festivals. London: Arthur H. Stockwell, 1906. 8°, 8", pp. vi. + 136, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

Disconnected chapters on such subjects as: "St. Bartholomew Fair"; "Gordon Riots"; "Famous City fires"; "Cock Lane ghost"; "Story of London Bridge" and "Famous Lord Mayor's shows."

Mr. Tyler, who is, by the way, an assistant in the St. Bride Foundation Public Library, discourses very pleasantly upon some of the more interesting phases and incidents of old London life, and his volume collects in a handy form much hitherto scattered information.

**Winchester** (C. T.). The Life of John Wesley. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1906. 8°, 8", pp. 14 + 302, *ports.* Price 6s. 6d.

A popular life of Wesley [1703-1791] the founder of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, based upon the materials collected by previous biographers.

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## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

#### MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM.

**I**N accordance with the resolution passed at Cambridge last year, the Library Association held the first local conference at Birmingham, on Thursday, May 3rd, when about 180 delegates from all parts of the country met in the City Council Chamber. There was a considerable representation of local educational and municipal

authorities, presided over by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, and the meeting was a success in every way. The proceedings consisted of the discussion of two important resolutions on the educational work of libraries and the extension of the rating powers. The first, moved by Mr. H. R. Tedder (London), and seconded by Mr. R. Cary Gilson (Headmaster, King Edward's Grammar School, Birmingham), was in the following terms:—

“That as the Public Library should be recognized as forming part of the national educational machinery, it is desirable that children from an early age should become accustomed to the use of collections of books in special children's libraries, and that advanced students should be able to obtain in Public Libraries the principal books recommended by various teaching bodies.”

This was carried unanimously, after a long discussion, in which Messrs. Cowell (Liverpool), Mathews (Bristol), Greenhough (Reading), Ballinger (Cardiff), Dent (Aston), Coley (Birmingham) and others took part.

The second resolution, also carried unanimously, was moved by Councillor Abbott (Manchester), seconded by Alderman Edwards (Birmingham), and declared:

“That this Conference is of opinion that the time has arrived for promoting legislation in reference to the following objects, viz.: (a) to empower county councils to put the Public Libraries Acts into operation and to organize library systems for the areas under their jurisdiction; (b) that, having regard to the increasing demands made upon the resources of the Public Library authorities throughout the country during recent years for educational work, it is of the greatest importance that the Public Libraries Acts should be amended so as to remove the present limitation of the library rate; (c) to exempt Public Libraries from the payment of local rates.”

The members who attended the conference were hospitably entertained by the Lord Mayor and local authorities, and there can be no doubt that such meetings, held at different local centres, will ultimately influence public opinion more in favour of the library movement.

#### SEVENTH MONTHLY MEETING.

The May meeting of the L.A. was held at the London School of Economics, on Monday, May 21st, when about twenty-five members attended, under the chairmanship of Mr. L. Inkster (Battersea), to hear a paper on “A Weak Point in Library Administration,” by Mr. E. McKnight, of Chorley. A paper on “Booksellers' Catalogues,” by Mr. Arnold Burt, of Handsworth, was also on the agenda, but was not ready, so that the whole evening was devoted to Mr. McKnight's paper, which was read by Mr. E. A. Baker, of Woolwich. The subject of the paper was library classification, and the writer submitted a well-reasoned and convincing series of arguments in favour of exact classification being made universal in British libraries. With one exception, the whole of the speakers endorsed the proposals of the paper, and pressed for immediate reorganization of unclassified libraries. The solitary objector based his observations on certain alleged physical and political difficulties attaching to old scientific libraries constructed with high shelves and spread over a number of rooms, but these objections were brushed aside by subsequent speakers.

## THE PSEUDONYMS.

IN the weird, spectral and mysterious light of the **ACCOMPLICES' GROTTO** the veiled hosts of the Mystic Brotherhood of the Alkapest sat in *silent conclave*, imbibing the elixir of life, distilled from the white rays of the moon by the dread President. In other words, the Pseudonyms met at the "Green Man" in Soho, with Philipp Aureolus Theophrastus Paracelsus (Bombast de Hohenheim), otherwise the "Babe B.A.," in the chair, and toddy was the tippie. Strictly in accordance with his magical character, Paracelsus performed many marvellous feats of hanky-panky, and entertained his auditors with some shocking tales of 16th century life, and the extraordinary effects produced in the licensed victualling trades of the time by the introduction of mineral drugs. The chairman took his text from the *Poemata* of that great Hebraist Rabbi Burns, giving as his subject-matter the lines from the well-known epigram on the Pediculus—

"O WAD SOME POWAR THE GISTIE GIE US  
TO SEE OURSELFS AS THEY'S SEE US!"

On this theme he spread himself thoroughly, and reduced his hearers to a state of mingled indignation and humility. He anatomized the Librarian very much as the Laird had previously dissected the Assistant, and displayed him as he appeared to the public, the press, his committee, his staff and his wife. It was painful to observe the conscious looks of one Pseudonym after another, as some part of the exposition, manifestly hit him on the raw. Paracelsus declared that the PUBLIC regarded the average librarian as a poor, feckless, invertebrate, shabby hack, with functions rather less exalted than those of a sanitary inspector, whose daily work comprised the issue of trashy novels to idle women, and the display of sensational newspapers to dirty loafers in smelly and unwholesome rooms. In most towns his social position was akin to that of a needy Grub Street penny-a-liner, and hardly anyone would credit him with ordinary intelligence. The local tradespeople, knowing his miserable stipend from public discussions in the town council, would not give him credit at all! The PRESS opinion of the librarian varied according to that official's recognition of the osmotic power of the chief reporter, and his intimacy with the sub-editor. In some towns the doings of "our energetic and capable librarian" were chronicled like the weather; in others he was of less consequence than the town beadle. The Press at large viewed the librarian very much as the public did, and regarded him, on the whole, as an unnecessary evil to be endured like the rates. The COMMITTEE view also varied. An astute librarian who ordered his clothes from his chairman, his coal from his vice-chairman, and other necessities of life from other members of his committee, generally succeeded very well, and was regarded as rather a nice fellow. In other cases, especially when local politics loomed large, the librarian was continually forced to dance barefooted on a red-hot gridiron, while his committee regarded him as

a poor little puppet who was an easy butt and prey at committee meetings. It was pathetic to see this man sent to annual conferences in the custody of his chairman and to observe the great man using his official as a kind of lackey ; even in many cases helping him to spend his miserable sixty shilling grant ! As for the STAFF !!! If it is true that no man is a hero to his valet, it is a thousand-fold more true of the relations between a librarian and his staff. The "chief" (Ha ! Ha !), poor devil, is a constant topic on which abuse, contempt, and sometimes pity, are lavished by individuals who one day aspire to occupy a similar position. Loyalty to a "chief" is positively one of the last virtues to be expected from the average assistant, and practically every chief librarian in the eyes, and on the tongues, of his subordinates, simply bulks as an UNDISTINGUISHED, INCOMPETENT, AND UNWORTHY ASS. "My eye !" quoth Paracelsus, "Have I not heard some uncomplimentary language, when the average sub-librarian or assistant lets go on the shortcomings of his temporary boss" ! At this point the whole of the Pseudonyms were deeply affected by the truth and poignancy of the picture drawn by Paracelsus, and they wept with one voice and one snuffle.

Before proceeding to the consideration of the librarian as he appeared in the eyes of his wife, Paracelsus prudently moved his chair to the immediate vicinity of the door, which he wedged open with a cork. The Librarian as seen by his WIFE is an object worthy of profound pity. In public, as a rule, the wife bravely magnifies the importance of her husband's office, and is a stickler for precedence over the wives of gas inspectors, rate collectors, road foremen and such. In private, she is wont to draw comparisons between the lot of a woman who marries a fixed and *known* salary, and that of the lady who marries a successful business-man, whose pockets are bursting with bullion. On this point, her eloquence is not only keen, but terrific in bulk (chorus of Pseudonyms who have "had some"—HEAR ! HEAR ! !), and generally has the effect of reducing her lord and master to a state of abject insignificance. (GROANS.) She cannot understand why a petty little man like X. of Y. should get £350 a year, while her husband (miserable wretch) can only scrape together about £150. Shekel by shekel she measures up her yoke-fellow, and compares him—always to his disadvantage—with the chief sanitary inspector, the electrical engineer and other officials who earn bigger wages for less work—[At this point, Paracelsus had to beat a rapid retreat, owing to the shower of banana skins, nut shells, orange peel and other missiles which were hurled at him by his infuriated brethren, and the meeting came to an abrupt close, the outraged Pseudonyms roaring in chorus :—

"THEY HAD SAID.  
WHAT SAID THEY?  
LET THEM SAY!"



## CORRESPONDENCE.

o o o

## REFERENCE WORKS FOR FREE LIBRARIES.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—Is it not an opportune moment for a much-to-be-desired amendment to the Free Libraries Act?

We may or may not all approve of the motives which prompted the passing of that Act, or of the results which it has entailed, but there it is, and it is clearly our duty to make the libraries as far as possible a power for good in the land.

That can to a large extent be done by scheduling in a short compulsory Purchase Act such works of reference as command general acceptance and are obviously out of the reach of the ordinary individual.

The strongest argument that can be used to justify the existence of such institutions as free libraries is that they should provide for the community at large what the individual cannot procure for himself.

It might be left to the discretion of a small committee appointed by the Government to select such works as, say, the Dictionary of National Biography and other standard works of reference, and it would then be made an instruction to the governing bodies of all the libraries and branch libraries that are wholly or partly supported out of the rates to purchase these works.

I cannot doubt that a Government that includes the names of Mr. John Morley, Mr. Birrell, and Professor Bryce would lend the movement their official support. Such men, too, as Sir E. Maunde Thompson and Mr. Sidney Lee might be asked to assist the committee, and I have no doubt their choice would command universal approbation.

It would, at all events, be interesting to know the opinions of some of your readers on the subject, and I hope, Sir, you will allow it to be ventilated in your valuable columns.

H. SAXE-WYNDHAM.

*The Guildhall School of Music,  
Victoria Embankment, E.C., May 11th.*

## LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

*To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.*

SIR,—Anything those benevolent mythical heroes, yclept the Pseudonyms, may say concerning library assistants or their much-maligned society, the L.A.A., is received in the best of humour, by the said assistants. Indeed, I for one, always turn to the report of the



Pseudonyms as the most considerable item your worthy magazine puts forth, and I experience a keen sense of disappointment when there is no report. But the pleasant humour of the situation vanishes, when an unsigned article on the Library Association examinations, bearing the full weight of editorial approval, apparently, comes out with a comment on the L.A.A. such as appeared in your last number. There *did* appear in the May *Assistant*, a most childishly stupid letter on the L.A. examination, signed grandiloquently by a long Latin phrase, but I really fail to read in it, anything that should justify your paragraph that: "it is often said that this aggressive little society [the L.A.A.] is run by a *clique* of London malcontents, and undoubtedly, the charge is justified by the frequent appearance of querulous and unfounded criticisms of the educational work of the Library Association." Would it not be reasonable to say that the letter reflects on the stupidity of the writer, rather than on the character of the L.A.A. I will admit piously that the L.A.A. is actuated by a divine discontent, but malcontent, as I connote the word, means discontent with evil intention, and I feel sure, Mr. Editor, that you do not seriously hold this view of the L.A.A.

Let me urge in opposition to your comment that the Secretary of the L.A.A. resigned his position on the Education Committee of the Library Association recently in order to enter for the examination, and your very humble servant has sat for every section of the examination. We have both taken a most active interest in the L.A.A. in the last few years; and what greater appreciation of the Library Association could we show, than by working for its certificates for all we are worth? In fact there is hardly a member of the L.A.A. Committee who is not a member or associate of the L.A., or who has not sat for some part of the examinations. Whence then your malcontents, Mr. Editor? At the last Committee meeting a very generally approved remark was made that "library assistants owe the Library Association a very great debt of gratitude," and I may say this without revealing Committee confidences. It seems a pity then, because the Publications Committee have allowed a letter, which I know the majority of us would condemn, to appear in the *Assistant*, that you should brand us all as a "*Clique* of malcontents," or say such a description is justifiable.

Personally I don't care twopence what anybody says about the L.A.A.: no society pleased everybody—Parliament doesn't even. But lately you have been so kind to us, and your remarks on our programme were so encouraging, that I feel sure that you, who have more influence upon British library opinion than any other journal, must have written that article in a fit of Carlylean dyspepsia. Smile on us again, Mr. Editor, please! We really are doing our best.

W. C. BERWICK SAYERS.

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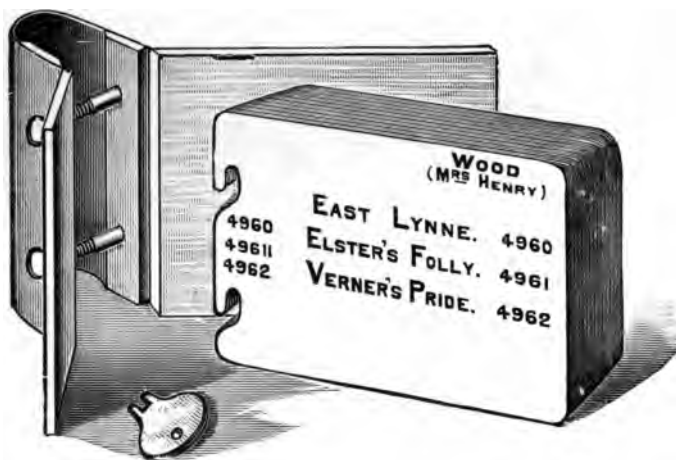
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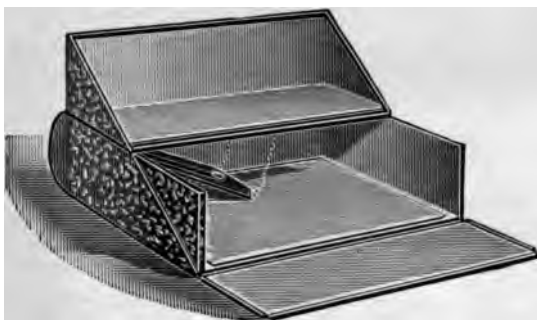
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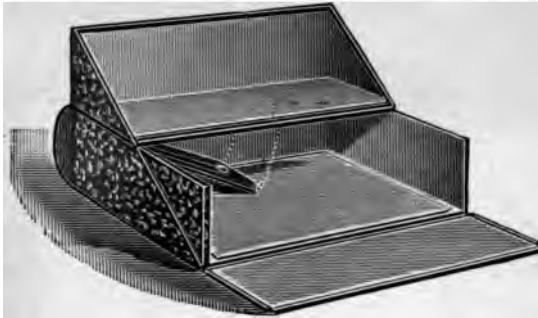


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**The Greenwood Library for Librarians.**  
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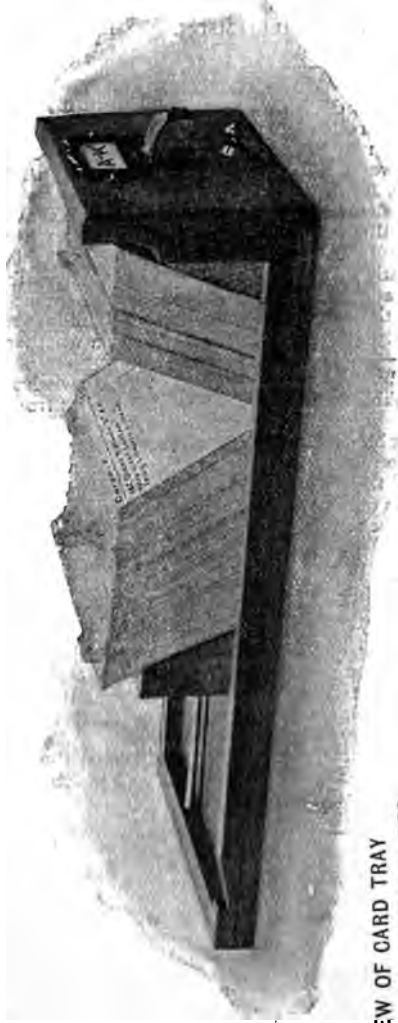
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E. WYNDHAM HULME, J. GORDON PARKER, A. SEYMOUR-JONES,  
CYRIL DAVENPORT AND F. J. WILLIAMSON.

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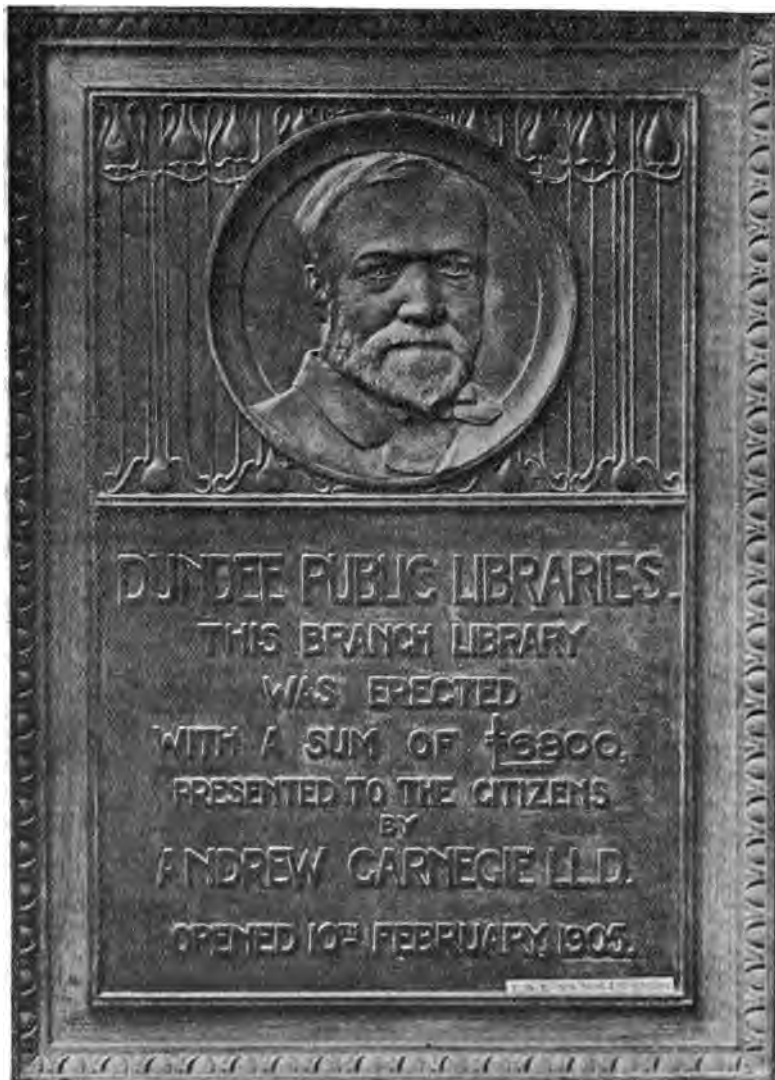
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